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Convicted lawyer Arriola is disbarred. PAGE 3

So far, 16,601 registered voters for November election. PAGE 5

Govt 'overspending' in FY10 may reach $24M, says Inos

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fiscal year 2010 could end on Sept. 30 with up to $24 million in government over-expenditure, according to Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

The year's projected revenue is only $137 million. This means government spending could top out at $161 million

The fiscal year ends on Sept. 30.

"We had projected $23 million to $24 million [in over-expenditure] for the

See INOS on Page 4

Steele: We don't need another stimulus package

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Republican National Committee chair Michael Steele, right, publicly endorses the candidacy of former governor Juan N. Babauta, left, as CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, at a private fundraiser last night at Babauta's residence in Garapan, before proceeding to Babauta's post-birthday fundraiser at the Garapan Central Park. This is the first time a chairman of the Republican National Committee or Steele has visited the CNMI.

» Republican National Committee chair here to endorse Babauta

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Republican National Committee chair Michael Steele said last night that the United States does not need another "stimulus" package from the Obama administration, as he rallied Republicans in the CNMI to do their best to send their own to Washington, D.C. in November.

Steele arrived from Guam to Saipan last night at the invitation of former governor Juan N. Babauta, who is

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AFTER SENATE DELETION

Standalone exit poll bill pre-filed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Five days after the Senate deleted the exit poll provision from an election bill, another bill was pre-filed yesterday to mandate the same thing: ask voters in the November elections their stance on a federal proposal to grant improved immigration status to foreign workers in the CNMI.

The exit poll is now contained in a

See EXIT POLL on Page 4

Number of illegal immigrants in US is now declining

By HOPE YEN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The number of illegal immigrants living in the U.S. has dropped for the first time in two decades—decreasing by 8 percent since 2007, a new study finds.

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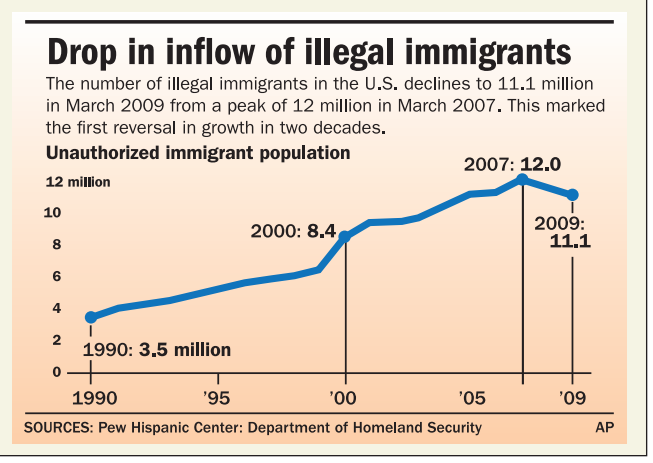

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Which of the Interior Department recommendations for long-term foreign workers in the CNMI do you support?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

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Microbes are consuming the oil in the Gulf without depleting the oxygen in the water.

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A house servant testifies that family members plotted the killings of rivals over dinner.

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After a decade-long facelift, the ancient Greek temple of Athena Nike is back up.

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Local

Nihon University professor, students on 6-day tour of Saipan

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Professor Yukiko Koshiro of Nihon University's College of International Relations (standing, left) poses with her eight students during their tour of the Northern Marianas College campus yesterday. The group arrived on Saipan last Monday to conduct research by visiting the island's historical sites. They are scheduled to leave Saturday afternoon.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

A visiting professor from the Nihon University in Japan said she and her students would want to make a significant contribution to this tropical island in the Pacific.

"I really want to do something that has a lasting impact on Saipan and Japan," said Yukiko Koshiro who teaches at the university's College of International Relations.

After visiting the CNMI museum, Koshiro said she and her students are looking at doing the Japanese explanations of photographs and exhibits there.

"If we find a way to do that, maybe we can organize some kind of project by adding more Japanese explanations to the museums and other places that might be interesting to Japanese visitors," she said.

The professor said the explanations in Japanese would help attract more Japanese to visit "this tiny, beautiful, charming island" that has become "a very, very big part of me."

Koshiro and her eight research seminar students arrived on Saipan Monday afternoon for a six-day visit.

Ayako Matsumoto of Pacific Eagle Enterprises coordinated the trip.

The group intends to gather and collect data and information on the connection between Saipan and Japan's southernmost island, Okinawa.

With ongoing talks about relocating thousands of Marines stationed at Futenma Base in Okinawa to the Pacific islands, including Saipan and Tinian, Koshiro said their research aims to ascertain the reaction of the local community to this plan.

Koshiro said another group of her students will visit Okinawa next week to further their research. Once the two groups return from their trips, Koshiro said they will compare results and make it available to the public.

Five years

Koshiro told *Saipan Tribune* that she has been bringing her university students to Saipan for five years now.

As part of the International Relations program, Koshiro said professors "have the duty of taking some of our students somewhere overseas."

Since there is already a professor who takes students to the U.S. mainland, Koshiro said the "U.S. didn't look like a unique destination."

After exploring the world map, Koshiro realized that Saipan would be the best place for her students to visit.

"Saipan turned out to be a wonderful place for Japanese students to learn about international relations because Saipan used to be a Japanese colony," she said.

Besides its historical significance, Koshiro said her students can learn about contemporary international relations on Saipan since the island is a place where immigrants from Asia and the Pacific "come to coexist."

"By coming here, students can learn all kinds of critical things that the younger Japanese generation should learn," she added.

Activities

During their trip, Koshiro said they visit historical sites and

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Convicted lawyer Arriola is disbarred

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has disbarred lawyer Joseph Aldan Arriola from practicing in CNMI courts, following his conviction in federal court of stealing over $600,000 from a deceased's estate.

"Mr. Arriola's misconduct has resulted in serious injuries to many former clients, to the public, and to the legal system and finds that the appropriate discipline is disbarment," associate judge David A. Wiseman said in an order issued yesterday.

Arriola's name will be stricken from the roll of admitted attorneys in the CNMI.

He may still be readmitted to practice law before CNMI courts after five years but he will be required to pass the CNMI Bar exam, including the multistate professional responsibility examination.

Wiseman ordered the 43-year-old Arriola to pay the court for any costs incurred to prosecute this disciplinary proceeding and to pay to any and all clients the sum of any unearned retainer fees.

The case arose after Arriola and his co-defendant, Luis Pelisamen, were found guilty of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and wire fraud when they drained over $600,000 from the Rita Kaipat estate's $1.37 million.

When the indictment was filed in federal court, Arriola was in the U.S. mainland. He fled to the Philippines.

Philippine authorities, in coordination with the FBI, arrested Arriola on June 16, 2009, and deported him to Saipan on Nov. 25, 2009.

He pleaded guilty as part of a plea agreement with the U.S. government and was sentenced on June 23, 2010, to four years and 10 months.

Pelisamen was also found guilty and sentenced to five years in prison.

The two were ordered to jointly pay the Rita Kaipat estate a total of $625,775.

On July 13, 2010, CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Miguel Demapan received from the federal court's clerk a certification that Arriola had been convicted of two counts of wire fraud.

Three days later, the CNMI Supreme Court issued an order disbarring him but then vacated its order on Aug. 2, 2010, and referred the matter to the Superior Court as required by the Commonwealth Disciplinary Rules.

In a closed hearing on Aug. 26, 2010, Arriola attributed his downfall and conviction to an addiction to drugs and alcohol.

Arriola, who appeared without counsel, expressed a desire to one day resume the practice of law and asked that he be suspended, rather than disbarred, for five years, following other jurisdictions that have recognized attorney addiction as a mitigating factor.

Wiseman said he must be extremely diligent in protecting and upholding the integrity and decorum of the judicial system.

"The public's confidence in the judicial system depends on it," he said.

The judge said a main factor in pursuing this constant diligence is to regulate the attorneys who practice law before the court and to assure that attorneys do not engage in conduct that disparages the administration of justice.

"The community expects lawyers to exhibit the highest standard of honesty and integrity, and lawyers have a duty not to engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, or interference with the administration of justice. Lawyers also owe duties to the legal system," he said.

Wiseman said the crime of wire fraud is a crime of moral turpitude per se and is also one of fraud and dishonesty.

"Therefore, an attorney with such convictions should be punished appropriately by way of this court imposing a disciplinary result that will assure the public's confidence in the judiciary's regulation of the attorneys practicing in the CNMI," Wiseman said.

House clerk plans to retire after 26 years

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

House of Representatives clerk Evelyn Fleming plans to retire after serving the Legislature for 26 years.

"She's an exceptional employee and House clerk," said Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) yesterday.

Fleming

Torres said Fleming was already working at the Legislative Bureau even before he became a lawmaker.

"I could only confirm that I am planning to retire," Fleming told *Saipan Tribune.* She declined to comment further.

Fleming started working at the Legislative Bureau in 1984, and became the House clerk five years later.

House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) said Fleming's institutional knowledge is "incredible."

"Even nowadays, if I have questions, I go to her. She's been at the Legislature even before I came in some 20 years ago. If she retires, she will be a big loss to us. We are going to miss her," said Benavente, who served as House speaker for three terms.

Torres is endorsing is House journal clerk Linda Muña to replace Fleming if the latter retires.

"I am endorsing or nominating Ms. Muña, and it will be up to the LB director if she accepts it. Ms. Muña is also highly efficient and exceptional. She already has a lot of experience, at the House and Senate. I think it would be better if the next House clerk is someone who is familiar with the office functions rather than bring in somebody from outside with no knowledge of how this office works," Torres said.

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), during a session last week, also told members that Fleming notified him of her plan to retire.

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Arriola sworn in to Zoning board

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Edward Arriola Jr. officially joined the Zoning Board after being sworn in on Capital Hill yesterday.

Arriola joins board chair Herminia Fusco, vice chair Henry Hofschneider, Isidoro Cabrera, Elizabeth Rechebei, and Diego Blanco.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed Arriola in July to serve as a member of the board.

"As a board member, it's important to service the private sector requests as well as my fellow board members," said Arriola.

According to Arriola, what might be "convenient" for a business owner might not be applicable via the law.

"The zoning board and office are there to provide service and convenience to the private sector by finding a middle ground to which both parties can agree to," he explained.

"The private sector needs to realize that [the Saipan Zoning Law] was passed to ensure that our CNMI properties are developed to their full use and potential," he added.

Arriola, who is the Tan Siu Lin Foundation manager and destination enhancement chairman of the Marianas Visitors Authority, said the islands should not sacrifice its beautiful landscape just to revive the economy and allow more businesses and tourists.

"We can have both if everyone can find their way to the middle ground," he added.

Fusco told *Saipan Tribune* that they look forward to working with Arriola and welcoming him in next month's board meeting.

Being a new member, Arriola will receive a packet containing all information he needs to know as a board member, she said.

Fusco said Arriola's experience in the private sector would be "a plus factor" for the board.

STEELE

From Page 1

the CNMI Republican Party's candidate for delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

After gracing a $100-per-person fundraising party at Babauta's residence in Garapan, Steele and local Republicans proceeded to the Garapan Central Park where hundreds took part in Babauta's festive post-birthday fundraiser for $10 a ticket.

Steele, in a brief interview with Saipan reporters at Babauta's residence, said "another $50 billion stimulus" is not something that is necessary right now.

"We don't need another stimulus. We have been stimulated to the point where nothing's happening and so the reality of it is we've already spent $863 million and we don't see the jobs, we don't see the small business getting the kind of support and incentives that they need to create the jobs that the American people want," he said.

President Obama's "second stimulus" proposals are a $100 billion tax credit for businesses and $50 billion on infrastructure spending. But these proposals have yet to be approved by what many believe is an increasingly partisan Congress that is expected to shift heavily Republican in November.

Steele, who is the first RNC chairman to ever set foot in the CNMI, said "the focus has got to be on how we engage the small businesses here on Saipan, in Guam, on the mainland to do what they do best – create jobs."

The CNMI has depended on federal stimulus funds to help the economy stay afloat following the demise of the garment industry early last year and the continued decline in tourist arrivals.

But Steele said people make a living in the private sector, "you make your living by men and women who are out there engaging in entrepreneurship, free market, free enterprise."

"That's what our economy is based on and built on and it's not government largesse. It's peoples money that's I think is largely being misspent right now, and I think you'll see that reflected in the vote at the ballot box this November. We've got a new leadership team starting with the former governor here in Washington, and he gets things done," said Steele.

Steele and CNMI Republicans took turns talking about a "new" wave of Republicans and a Republican-dominated U.S. Congress.

His main purpose in visiting Saipan is to publicly endorse the candidacy of Babauta, who he said has a proven leadership as a former governor and CNMI resident representative to Washington, D.C.

Babauta, in an interview, said he is humbled by Steele's endorsement and people's presence at his birthday fundraiser, highlighted by Steele's remarks, cultural dances and food. He turned 57 the other day.

Keane Palacios, 24, who was among those at the fundraiser, said he feels honored by Steele's visit to the CNMI.

"I feel that the CNMI is now an important part of the U.S.," he said, adding that he is supporting Babauta's candidacy.

Babauta is one of four candidates running in the Nov. 2 election for delegate.

The other three are incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, former lieutenant governor Jesse Borja of the Democratic Party, and former House floor leader Joseph Camacho of the Covenant Party.

CNMI Republicans—including chair Juan I. Tenorio, Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota), House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), Bo Palacios and Tom Tebuteb—said Steele's visit helps the CNMI get more attention from Washington, D.C.

Ambrose Bennett, one of those who attended the fundraiser at Babauta's residence, said he's "very elated" in meeting Steele because of two things: Steele is first RNC chairman to visit Saipan, and because he—Bennett—is the first African-American that Steele has met on Saipan.

Steele took the RNC chairmanship in January 2009 after a turbulent race against incumbent Mike Duncan. Steele is the first African-American to become RNC chair. He is a former Maryland lieutenant governor.

Despite the controversies surrounding Steele's chairmanship of the RNC—including spending Republican funds on a bondage-themed nightclub, his suggestion that the war in Afghanistan could not be won, and that under his chairmanship of the national GOP, the party incurred a debt of almost $7 million—CNMI Republicans were quick to point out that most of these were not Steele's own doing.

Steele is set to leave Saipan this morning.

EXIT POLL

From Page 1

standalone bill, instead of a rider to a larger bill seeking to prevent fraud and abuse during early voting.

Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) pre-filed yesterday House Bill 17-109, mandating the Commonwealth Election Commission to conduct the exit poll.

His HB 17-104, which earlier contained the exit poll, passed the House after a bitter debate on the language of the exit poll.

The Senate also passed HB 17-104 on Friday on Tinian, but only after deleting the provision on the exit poll.

Cabrera said his HB 17-104, which the Senate amended, will be up for voting today, and is expected to pass.

But his HB 17-109, pre-filed only yesterday, will not be acted on in today's session.

The Fitial administration is also disappointed that the Senate deleted the exit poll section, but is now hoping that the standalone bill will pass.

"We hope that the lawmakers will come to terms and reach a final resolution to giving the people the opportunity to be heard," said press secretary Angel Demapan yesterday.

Cabrera said it is important that voters are directly involved in determining the future of the Commonwealth, by asking them their opinion about the long-term status of nonresidents on the islands.

"The U.S. Congress has to know what people here think about the Department of the Interior report, and respect it. The people here have to be heard… I also want to point out that participating in the exit poll is not mandatory; only the conduct of the exit poll is mandatory when this bill becomes law," Cabrera told *Saipan Tribune.*

The exit poll would be printed on a sheet separate from the ballots.

Interior had recommended to Congress to consider permitting alien workers who have lawfully resided in the CNMI for at least five years to apply for long-term status under the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act.

Voters will be asked: "Do you agree with this recommendation that the U.S. Congress consider permitting alien workers who have lawfully resided in the CNMI for a minimum of five years to apply for long-term status such as United States citizenship, permanent resident status, and freely associated states nonimmigrant status?"

Voters will have to either check "yes" or "no."

Cabrera's new bill rephrases the opening statement that House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) and other House members objected to because they said it was misleading, biased and loaded.

The objectionable opening statement in the previous bill was: "Without consulting the governor as required by PL 110-229, the April 2010 Report on the Alien Worker Population in the CNMI…"

In Cabrera's new bill, the opening statement in the exit poll reads: "PL 110-229 requires consultation with the governor of the Commonwealth prior to submission of the Report on the Alien Worker Population in the CNMI by the Department of Interior. The governor of the Commonwealth disputes whether the consultation occurred. Whether or not the consultation occurred, the April 2010 Report…"

Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said he was disappointed that the Senate deleted the exit poll provision of HB 17-104.

"I find it hard to believe that something as important as the exit poll was stricken from the election bill. We must now find some other way to try to gauge the true sentiment of people on this issue," he said.

House and Senate members said yesterday that they have yet to see the new bill.

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said he also has not seen the bill. But he said, "I don't mind having the opportunity for our people to voice their concern."

Besides deleting the exit poll in an election bill, the Senate also killed the Saipan casino bill introduced by House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), and amended the House budget bill.

IMMIGRANTS

From Page 1

The reasons range from the sour economy to Mexican violence and increased U.S. enforcement that has made it harder to sneak across the border.

Much of the decline comes from a sharp drop-off in illegal immigrants from the Caribbean, Central America and South America attempting to cross the southern border of the U.S., according to the Pew Hispanic Center, which based its report on an analysis of 2009 census data.

The study released Wednesday estimates that 11.1 million illegal immigrants lived in the U.S. in 2009. That represents a decrease of roughly 1 million, or 8 percent, from a peak of 12 million in 2007.

The study puts the number of illegal immigrants down to about where it was in 2005. They still make up roughly 4 percent of the U.S. population.

The Homeland Security Department's own estimate of illegal immigrants is slightly lower, at 10.8 million. The government uses a different census survey that makes some year-to-year comparisons difficult.

An increase in unauthorized immigrants leaving the U.S., by deportation or for economic reasons, may have played a factor in the falling number.

In recent years, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has deported an increasing number of illegal immigrants, reaching a high last year of more than 389,000 people, according to government figures.

States in the Southeast and Southwest saw some of the biggest declines in the number of illegal immigrants from 2008 to 2009, including Florida, Nevada and Virginia. Arizona saw a decrease, but it was too small to be statistically significant.

INOS

From Page 1

year. It hasn't changed," Inos said.

Most of the operating deficit is at the Department of Public Health and utilities expenses.

The projected overspending could add to the government's unreserved fund deficit of $300.8 million by the end of fiscal year 2009—from only $256.3 million in fiscal year 2008, based on an independent audit of government finances.

In fiscal year 2011, the government's projected revenue is much lower, with only $132 million available for government operations.

In 2011, if the government spends at its current rate, Inos said the financial crisis could worsen and the rolling deficit will increase further.

In the first half of fiscal year 2010 alone, the government posted a $17 million over-expenditure or operating deficit.

Inos, who oversees government financial matters, said the lower projected revenue justifies work hour reduction of up to 16 hours per pay period.

The administration has already notified civil service and excepted service employees in the Executive Branch of a 16-hour cut in fiscal year 2011.

NIHON

From Page 2

met with local people to learn about historical and contemporary issues.

On Monday and Tuesday, for instance, Koshiro and their group visited the headquarters of the Imperial Japanese Navy at the side of Mt. Tapochau.

The group met with Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz and park ranger Nancy Kelchner.

Yesterday, the group was given a tour of the Northern Marianas College campus and visited its Japanese language class to see how other people learn their language.

Although older generations have their wisdom, Koshiro said they want to hear what the today's generation has to say.

"We want to know what kind of things the younger generation learned from their grandparents' generation," she said.

The group also met with Manuel "Kiyu" Villagomez, who grew up during the Japanese occupation and witnessed the Battle of Saipan between American troops and Japanese soldiers.

Koshiro said they will also visit Managaha, learn how to make the local delicacy *apigigi*, and adopt a beach or historical site for cleanup.

According to Koshiro, her students enjoy coming to Saipan that some of them would join her research seminar more than once.

"The ocean is beautiful. That's one thing that impresses me most," said Lide Su.

Another student, Yuki Kubota, said there is more to Saipan than its pristine beaches.

"I'm equally impressed with the way the people of Saipan preserved everything that the war had left. I'm very thankful for that because that way, Japanese people can learn about things of the past," she said.

Kazaki Ikeda said his experience on Saipan is "beyond words" and would definitely encourage other students to visit the island.

Every time she comes back, Koshiro said local people "really show the best of Saipan all the time."

"Because of that kindness, we are determined to come back over and over," she said.

So far, 16,601 registered voters for November election

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A total of 16,601 voters have registered for the upcoming Nov. 2 polls, a number that is almost the same as the general election last year, according to the Commonwealth Election Commission.

Registration ended on Sept. 3 but executive director Robert A. Guerrero said the final number may still change due to some factors.

Saipan Tribune learned that absentee ballot requests, as long as they are postmarked Sept. 3, would still be added to the voters' list after the agency gets them.

Guerrero also pointed out that the court could also strike from the list convicted individuals and deaths.

The election for a Commonwealth delegate to the U.S. Congress has four candidates: Republican Party standard-bearer Juan N. Babauta, Covenant Party nominee Joseph N. Camacho, Democratic Party bet Jesus C. Borja, and incumbent Gregorio Kilili Sablan, who is running as an independent.

Guerrero earlier projected a higher number of registered voters for this special election due to new registrants but that did not turn out as expected.

He said the agency will go ahead and print 17,000 ballots for the election.

The commission aims to start mailing out absentee ballot forms by middle of this month to give voters ample time to return them before Nov. 2.

Commission records indicate that Precinct 1 has a total of 4,468 voters, broken down into San Vicente, 2,555 voters; Koblerville, 1,083; and San Antonio, 830.

Precinct 2 has a total of 1,291 registered voters and covers Chalan Kanoa and Susupe.

Precinct 3 has 2,554 registered voters in Garapan and 918 in Oleai.

Precinct 4 has 1,806 voters: Tanapag, 655; San Roque, 579; Capital Hill, 439; and Northern Islands, 133.

Kagman, which is Precinct 5, has 2,479 voters.

Precinct 6, which covers Tinian, has 1,460, while Precinct 7, covering Rota, has 1,625.

This is the second time the CNMI will vote for a representative to the U.S. Congress. The position has a two-year term.

Fewer absentee voters seen

» CEC receives 127 absentee ballot requests

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Exactly a month before the Oct. 8 deadline, only a little over 100 individuals have asked the Commonwealth Election Commission for absentee ballots, based on the data posted on the commission website yesterday.

Absentee voters are registered voters in the CNMI who, for various reasons, cannot participate in the actual elections on Nov. 2. They include off-island voters and those individuals who may not be able to go to polling places on Election Day.

The agency began receiving requests for absentee ballots on Aug. 19 and has until Oct. 8 to do so. As of Sept. 4, only 127 requests for absentee ballots have been transmitted to the commission.

Based on this trend, fewer absentee votes are expected on Nov. 2.

According to executive director Robert A. Guerrero, the agency had about 2,000 absentee voters in the November 2009 general election. At that time, the commission already had three times the number of absentee voters by September 2009.

"It looks like we will have [fewer] absentee voters this election," Guerrero said, but he remains hopeful that more voters, especially those from off-island, would still send their requests on time.

The agency, he said, will start sending ballot forms on Sept. 15 and the commission is only allowed to receive them before Nov. 2.

Vital legislation

Guerrero admitted that the commission is worried about the fate of a bill currently pending in the Legislature and hopes it would be passed in time as it would aid them with their funding woes.

The Senate last week amended provisions of the bill, which means it has to go back to the House of Representatives for adoption.

"If the proposed early voting of 45 days for the Northern Island is not approved, this means that we have to produce $11,000 to bring charter flights to the Northern Islands on Election Day," said Guerrero.

Under existing laws, the Northern Islands is provided a 10-day window for early voting. The pending bill proposes to extend it to 45 days.

"That's our main concern this time…if we fail to get the assistance from other agencies for free rides to the Northern Islands within 10 days, this means we will have to shoulder the additional cost and we don't know where to get the funding," he said, stressing that Northern Island voters cannot be denied their right to vote.

The commission was approved a funding of $65,000 to prepare for the election; only $35,000 has been transmitted to the agency. The commission expects the remaining balance to become available next month.

Because of its limited budget, the commission has decided to count the ballots manually and streamlined some areas in its operation such as the printing of ballots and educational materials for the initiatives.

Saipan Southern High students split on 'petition' for Garrison's return

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Students of Saipan Southern High School are split on a petition to ask Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan to bring back Craig Garrison as their school principal.

News about the "petition for Garrison" circulated among students yesterday after some groups raised the idea through their social networks.

But in a visit to the campus yesterday, students admitted hearing about the "information" but said they haven't seen the actual petition yet.

Many students, who agreed to be interviewed on the condition that they not be named, expressed mixed opinions about the petition.

"We want him back…but we also respect the will of the commissioner," one of them said.

A senior male student described the alleged "petition" as a show of disrespect for the newly installed school principal, Jesse M. Tudela.

"Yes we owe a lot to Mr. Garrison because he did a lot of improvements for us here... but we also need to show respect and trust in Mr. Tudela," he said.

Some seniors said the sudden transfer of Garrison to MHS is for a "greater" purpose that must be accomplished.

SSHS Student Council president Joshua Diaz said yesterday he is not aware of the petition, but vowed to get more input from his colleagues.

Some Student Council officers admitted reading about the purported petition through their social networks.

Personally, Diaz said, he wants Garrison back on campus but until the majority or all of the students voice the same sentiment, there's no way a petition will be initiated by the Student Council.

Stuco vice president Samantha Birmingham said any petition—to become formal—must get the approval of the school principal.

"We can't make it happen without the principal's approval because the petition must be submitted to PSS and Board of Education," she said.

Garrison was appointed principal of Marianas High School last week, replacing Karen Borja.

SSHS has an enrollment of 910 as of Tuesday.

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Smooth opening of classes for Tinian, Rota schools

» English, chemistry teachers still needed

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Save for a lack of English and chemistry teachers in some schools, public schools on Rota and Tinian had smooth starts of classes on Tuesday.

PSS associate commissioner Peter James Le'au told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Tinian Elementary had 239 enrollees as of yesterday, while Tinian Junior High School and Tinian High School had 261. These translate to almost the same number of students last school year, he said.

Le'au was on Tinian since Tuesday and is expected to return to Saipan Friday morning to give Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan a status report on the first week of classes on the island.

Le'au described the two-day start of classes as "very quiet and organized" and commended the collaboration of school administrators and staff to ensure the smooth flow of operations on Tinian.

Tinian Elementary School is being handled by principal Dionne Santos, while Julian Hofschneider is responsible for the Tinian Jr./Sr. High School.

Le'au, who was also on Tinian last year for the start of classes, noted a big improvement in this school year's preparation, with many teachers returning to help ease the staffing needs of both schools.

He described the students-to-teacher ratio in both levels as "ideal" at 20:1 to 23:1.

There were also no shortage of classrooms, teachers, and other concerns.

"This is pretty good start… everybody came prepared for the students," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Rota High School principal Sharlene Manglona also described her school's opening as "smooth" despite a few staffing concerns.

As of yesterday, 190 students have registered, with three more students on the way.

Despite some classes having a high number of students, Manglona said they managed to open classes without too much disruption. Last year, enrollment was at 182.

Saipan Tribune learned that Rota High School has no chemistry teacher for 36 students and Manglona has been using one of her teachers to handle the class.

She said she expects one to join them soon.

As of yesterday, students-to-teacher ratio at Rota High school was at 25:1, except for math, which has 27 students.

Manglona said she also has a high ratio for English classes, prompting the cancellation of an English class for freshmen to accommodate the Advance Placement course. The school has three English teachers and wants one more.

Rota has 16 teachers and 15 classrooms.

BUDGET SESSION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Representatives of the Northern Marianas College attend the Senate budget session on Tinian last Friday to help ensure that NMC's budgetary needs were conveyed. From left, Galvin Deleon Guerrero, accreditation liaison officer; Bobbie Merfalen, acting interim president; Janet King, chairperson of NMC Board of Regents; Maria Aguon, Tinian instructional site program coordinator; Henry Hofschneider, chief financial and administrative officer, and Skep Palacios, budget analyst.

Judge dismisses widow's 2 claims in death of husband

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court dismissed yesterday two of three claims filed by the widow of a construction worker who was killed when a vehicle hit him as he was crossing Monsignor Martinez Road in As Lito.

Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed Mariel Falalimpa's claim for negligent infliction of emotional distress and negligence.

Manglona said the complaint alleges that Duane Quitugua Richards hit Joselito Baysauli Falalimpa with his car, causing his death.

However, the judge said, Mrs. Falalimpa was not in the immediate vicinity nor present to witness the event, and there is no allegation that Richard's negligence threatened her with bodily harm in any other way than her emotional distress at the peril of her husband.

Accordingly, Manglona said, Mrs. Falalimpa fails to establish a claim of negligent infliction of emotional distress.

On the negligence claim, Manglona said Mrs. Falalimpa's counsel conceded at the hearing that her negligence claim is premised on the same facts as those for her husband's separate claim of negligence against the driver and the owners of the vehicle for their conduct.

"Mrs. Falalimpa's inclusion in the factual allegation for the negligence claim arises only upon her reference to sustaining damages," she said.

Manglona agreed with defendants' argument that such a factual pleading fails to satisfy the necessary standard under Commonwealth Rules of Civil Procedure.

Mrs. Falalimpa, through counsel F. Matthew Smith, sued Duane Quitugua Richards, Marvin Tydingco, and Melva Ann Ada.

Richards was the alleged driver of a vehicle that killed Mr. Falalimpa. Tydingco and Ada are the alleged owners of the vehicle.

Mrs. Falalimpa filed the lawsuit on behalf of herself and as personal representative of her deceased husband. She asserted claims for negligence, wrongful death, and negligent infliction of emotional distress against all three.

She is seeking damages for her and her children's benefit, plus burial and funeral expenses and court costs.

The Falalimpa couple have two children ages 5 and 4.

The defendants, through counsel Sean Frink, filed a motion to dismiss Mr. Falalimpa's two causes of action—negligent infliction of emotional distress and negligence.

The defendants initially moved to dismiss the third claim—wrongful death, but withdrew it after learning that Mrs. Falalimpa has in fact been appointed as the personal representative of her husband's estate.

The accident happened on Oct. 24, 2009.

Probable cause found to charge suspects in foiled poker robbery

The Superior Court found probable cause yesterday to warrant the filing of charges against two men who were arrested in connection with a foiled robbery at a poker arcade in San Vicente.

Associate judge Ramona V. Manglona determined that there is probable cause to believe that Terence A. Fitial and Aliston H. Santos may have committed the crime and directed the two to respond to the charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, attempted robbery, and conspiracy to commit robbery.

Assistant attorney general Benjamin Petersburg appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Richard Miller served as counsel for Fitial, while attorney Joseph Horey represented Santos.

Detective Jackson W. Jack said that, in an interview after their arrest, Fitial and Santos admitted participating in the attempted robbery at SV Poker on Aug. 30.

Fital and Santos allegedly confessed that they had been drinking at Fitial's grandmother's house in San Vicente when they decided to rob SV Poker.

The suspects failed to get any money after the security guard fought them. The guard was injured during the struggle. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, **Plaintiff,** vs. **LAURA I. MANGLONA and THOMAS M. MANGLONA,** **Defendants.**	**Civil Action No. 08-0214-CV** **NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on July 23, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 003 R 30 (formerly known as Block 31, Lot 6), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 003 R 00, the original of which was registered 12 NOV 71 as Document No. 1290 at Land Registry, Saipan, situated on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 651 square meters, more or less, and recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on 12 SEP 96 as Document No. 96-2289.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on September 24, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.

3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 10th day of August, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
REPROGRAMMING OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Program Year	Activity No.	Activity Type	Activity Name	Activity Status	Amount from program	Reprogram to
2004	238	Public Facilities	Rota Baseball/ Softball Field	Completed	$35,082.00	
2004	306	Public Facilities	Tinian Public Library Public Service	Completed	$22,983.46	
2006	323	Public Facilities	Northern Marianas Islands-Japan Cultural Center	Completed	$21,170.57	
2006	327	Public Facilities	Tinian Amphitheater Phase II	Completed	$215.64	
2006	343	Public Services	Marianas High School Public Services	Completed	$0.15	
2006	344	Public Services	Tinian Elementary School Public Services	Completed	$14.00	
2006	345	Public Facilities	One Million Gallon Water Reservoir Rehabilitation	Completed	$69,091.74	
2006	347	Public Facilities	Susupe Sports Complex	Completed	$13,012.99	
2007	337	Public Facilities	Marianas High School Building J	Completed	$45,000.00	
2004/2006/2007		Public Facilities	Major Rehabilitation of the Susupe Sports Complex Gymnasium	New		$206,570.55
Total					$206,570.55	$206,570.55

The public is invited to provide written and oral comments on the proposed reprogramming. Written comments will be accepted no later than 4:30 p.m., October 11, 2010, at the main office in Garapan, Post Office Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950. Oral comments may be relayed to Zenie P. Mafnas at telephone number (670) 234-7670, 6866, 7689, or 9447. Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations to submit comments may also contact Jeannie P. Mafnas at the telephone numbers above for assistance.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane

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- ☑ **Gold Broken Chains** ..... up to $1,000
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Coral Reef Task Force preps for upcoming confab

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CLARISSA DAVID

CNMI Coral Reef Task Force point of contact Fran Castro makes a presentation during Tuesday's membership meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan at Giovani's Restaurant at the Hyatt.

The Coral Reef Task Force of the CNMI's accomplishments and programs to protect the islands' marine life was the highlight of last Tuesday's membership meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan at Giovani's Restaurant at the Hyatt.

"Since the Task Force has started, they have passed more than 60 resolutions," CNMI Coral Reef point of contact Fran Castro told Rotarians.

The U.S. Coral Reef Task Force was established in 1998 by former President Bill Clinton through Presidential Executive Order 13089.

Twelve federal agencies and seven states, territories, and commonwealths were tasked to lead efforts to preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems.

Among these resolutions, Castro said, the biggest one is the Puerto Rico resolution "which calls for local action strategies to be developed in each of the local core jurisdiction."

When the Puerto Rico resolution passed in 2003, Castro said the CNMI Coral Reef Task Force had a workshop for all stakeholders and resource agencies to identify focus threat areas or action strategies for the islands.

Through the workshop, Castro said they were able to identify land-based sources of pollution, fishery management, lack of awareness and public involvement, and recreational use and misuse as areas that need to be addressed through the Coral Reef Conservation funding.

Castro said the task force has received over $3 million since 2003to deal with these threats.

She said the CNMI Coral Reef Program was formed under the Governor's Office, comprising a policy committee, the point of contact for coral reef matters, a science advisory committee, and a coordinating committee.

The policy committee is composed of the directors of the Division of Environmental Quality, the Division of Fish and Wildlife, and the Coastal Resources Management.

The advisory committee deals with all the ongoing monitoring efforts while the coordinating committee prioritizes the projects needed to protect coral reefs.

Castro said the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force will hold its meeting on Saipan from Sept. 15 to 16 at the Saipan World Resort.

The meeting, which is hosted by the governments of Guam, CNMI and the Federated States of Micronesia, will focus on the Micronesia Challenge initiative signed in 2006.

"It's an initiative signed by the governments of Guam, CNMI, Republic of Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia. Our goal is to protect or effectively conserve 30 percent of our marine resources and 20 percent of our terrestrial resources," said Castro.

To achieve this goal by its 2020 target date, Castro said they have taken a watershed approach by concentrating on Laolao Bay, Garapan, Tachogna, and the northeast Tinian coast watersheds.

Programs

Publication and outreach coordinator Lisa Eller said they have various programs that address these conservation efforts, which include the Ridge to Reef Eco Camps, the Coral Reef Internship, the First Friday Film Series, and coastal cleanups.

Through Ridge to Reef, Eller said they are able to foster environmental friendly actions from fourth to sixth graders by taking them to conservation areas and helping them experience the importance of conservation during a weeklong summer camp.

For the Coral Reef Internship program, Eller said they provide opportunities to college students to work on coral reef management projects to build local capacity and deal with natural resource management issues.

Eller said the First Friday Film Series is a partnership with the National Park Service and aims to engage people in addressing issues documented in the films being shown every first Friday of the month at the American Memorial Park.

Eller also said the International Coastal Cleanup on Sept. 25 aims to draw volunteers from the CNMI to participate in the worldwide cleanup of beaches and coastal areas.

ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial poses with health officials and other community stakeholders after the proclamation signing Friday that declared September 2010 as National Drug and Alcohol Addiction Recovery Month. The occasion will be used to educate the community about how substance use disorders affects everyone, including public safety officials, the work force, older adults, and families, therefore, it is essential to combat misconceptions associated with addiction.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 9, 2002

SCC supports CHC, DPH privatization

Businessmen yesterday expressed support for the legislative measure that seeks to privatize Saipan's lone hospital-the Commonwealth Health Center-and its administering agency, the Department of Public Health, the fiscal standing of which has contributed to the bulk of the government's projected $18-million deficit this fiscal year. "I think it's an excellent idea," said Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Richard Pierce. "We support it." In addition, Pierce said other details such as the absorption of hospital employees should also be looked at once privatization is to be made. As a businessman, Pierce said managing a health facility is unique in that it has to balance the cost of medical care with the need to address public health. "That business is so difficult to run."

CIP site issue could land in court

Ratcheting up his arguments for the location of four CIP projects on Rota, Mayor Benjamin Manglona said he might be forced to go to court to compel the Rota Legislative Delegation to agree with him on the matter. Citing a petition that he claimed contained more than 800 signatures that support him, Manglona said the people have spoken and are demanding action. "Nearly two-thirds of Rota's registered voters support our plans on where the CIP should be built," said Manglona. The projects consist of a Convention Center, a DPS building, a Cultural Center, and Judicial Complex.

Sept. 9, 2003

Atalig's condition on Guam said 'difficult'

Less than two weeks since he was incarcerated on Guam, Sen. Ricardo S. Atalig wishes he'd be out of the island soon. Stephen Woodruff, Atalig's lawyer, described the senator's condition in jail as difficult. "The conditions are unfavorable. The conditions are significantly less favorable than he would be at a minimum-security [detention facility]." The jail where Atalig is currently held is a facility of Guam's Department of Corrections-not of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The bureau has designated Atalig to serve his 63-month jail term at Federal Prison Camp Nellis in North Las Vegas, a minimum-security level facility for male prisoners. Woodruff said it is located within an Air Force base.

NMIRF investments hit $330.7M

Riding on the wave that has buoyed the value of stocks in recent weeks, the NMI Retirement Fund's international investments posted a modest rally at the markets in July, climbing to $330.72 million by month's end. Although just a 1.9-percent increase compared to the $325.97 million posted in June, this means an increase of some $4.8 million and marks the fourth straight month that the Fund's international portfolio has been going up since posting a dismal $289.64 million in March this year. Last July's figure is also an improvement on the figure posted during the same period last year, when the Fund's international portfolio was valued at $302.96 million in July 2002.

Sept. 9, 2004

Thursday, September 09, 2004

Beginning today, Labor deputy secretary Andrew Salas-known as Gov. Juan N. Babauta's jogging buddy-would assume the helm of the Department of Commerce as its acting secretary. Gov. Juan N. Babauta disclosed that he would appoint Salas today to the Commerce Department's top executive post. Salas was the first person to assume the deputy secretary position at the Department of Labor. He was appointed to the post by the governor after losing his senatorial bid in the 2003 midterm polls. Before his appointment to the Labor Department, there were already rumors that Salas was being groomed for the Commerce Department's top post.

MPLA defers action on JG Sablan mining permit

The Marianas Public Lands Authority has again deferred action on the request of J.G. Sablan Rock Quarry Inc. for continuation of its mining permit on Pagan. In a meeting yesterday, the MPLA board of directors instructed the staff instead to arrange a meeting with J.G. Sablan officials within the next few days. The result of the discussion is expected to guide the agency in deciding whether or not the company continues to possess mining rights to Pagan. "We are not ready to make a decision. We're trying to work something out with JG Sablan," MPLA chair Ana Demapan-Castro said. The board will reconvene for another special meeting and come up with a decision on J.G. Sablan's request on Sept.17.

Saipan Rotary invites US delegate candidates

As part of its efforts to understand the pressing issues of the community, the Rotary Club of Saipan has decided to hear from the U.S. delegate candidates themselves on what their priorities will be and to discuss their official platforms.

U.S. delegate candidates Juan N. Babauta, Jesus C. Borja, Joseph N. Camacho and incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan have been invited to individually address the Club's membership starting next week, Sept. 14 to Oct. 12.

"We are stakeholders in our community and driven to improve the lives of our citizens in every way that we can. It is important that we know and understand during this important time of change where each of the U.S. delegate candidates stand on our current issues," said president Glen Perez.

"It is also about providing our membership the forum to hear and share ideas about what is affecting our community and what can we do about it," he said.

The members of the islands' longest standing civic and business group gather for their weekly meetings every Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan to discuss issues in the community, find worthwhile projects and promote the club's international mission of goodwill and service.

Rotary Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and are a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. As signified by the motto, "Service Above Self", Rotary's main objective is service—in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world.

Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas.

The general membership meetings are only open to Rotarians and their invited guests. The U.S. delegate candidate presentations will be covered by the local media and shared with the public. ***(PR)***

CHILD'S PLAY HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A boy plays around a booth that seeks to educate the young and old about the ill-effects of smoking tobacco products, at the health fair sponsored by the Saipan and Guam SDA Clinics and the Pacific Island Youth for Christ at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Monday afternoon. Volunteer physicians, dentists, dental hygienists, nurses and youth provided free health services to community members, including getting their blood pressure, blood sugar and body mass index. The volunteers also provided free consultations and health information handouts.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Second Saturday Strides this Saturday

Bring friends and family and come down to the Commonwealth Cancer Association's *Second Saturday Strides* this Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010, from Minatchom Atdao to Quartermaster Intersection and back. Enjoy a refreshing morning run/walk and help raise funds for cancer awareness and patient support programs too. Registration starts at 5:30am, and a $5 donation fee is requested.

In recognition of Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, participants are asked to wear blue, and survivors are encouraged to wear their survivor shirts from the Marianas March Against Cancer.

Second Saturday Strides is made possible through the support of Micronesian Brokers (CNMI), Inc., Foremost Foods, the Department of Public Health Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, and volunteers of the Commonwealth Cancer Association. ***(PR)***

Meeting of the Autism Society of the CNMI

The Autism Society of the CNMI will be holding its monthly meeting on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010, at 10am, at the NMPASI Conference Room. Information regarding the group and future meetings will be available at this meeting. All families and friends of individuals with autism and autism related spectrum disorders are invited to attend. For additional information, call 322-3761 or send an email to as_cnmi@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Power outage on Saturday

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. announces that there will be a power outage on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010, from 7:30am to 10am on Kiya 1. Areas affected will be from San Vicente (Adventure Store) up to Papago (Botanical Garden). The power distribution crew will be replacing rotted primary power poles along Isa Drive. This outage is necessary to allow the linemen to work safely on the power lines. ***(PR)***

Int'l Coastal Cleanup this month

Join the entire Commonwealth for the 25th annual International Coastal Cleanup on Sept. 24, Friday, or Sept. 25, Saturday. To sign-up for the event, complete the sign-up sheet and fax it to Rachel Zuercher, Coastal Resources Management, at 664-8315. For more information, call 664-8305 or email - rachel.zuercher@crm.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

Calling all CNMI artists

Registration is now open (first-come, first-served basis) for the first 30 visual and traditional CNMI artists who wish to participate in the Guam Micronesian Fair, which will be held at the Ypao beach in Guam on Oct. 15-17, 2010. Participants must be CNMI registered artists under the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture. For more information, call the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture at (670) 322-9982/83, fax at (670)322-9028, or email parkeryobei@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Naval Base Guam front gate reopens

SANTA RITA, Guam—Naval Base Guam's front gate reopened yesterday, Sept. 8, at 5am. The back gate also returned to routine access hours on Sept. 8, 8am. At that point, authorized motorists can access the base through the back gate Monday-Friday, 5:30am-8am and 3pm-5:30pm. The back gate will be closed on weekends. ***(USN)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Schneider Ongiil, who is celebrating his special day today, Sept. 9, 2010! Greetings come from your Joeten Ace Hardware family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 5th birthday to Parveen P. Mingefiiy, who will be celebrating her birthday today, Sept. 9, 2010! We love you and may you continue to be blessed with many more wonderful birthdays to come! Love, mom, dad, Nathan, grandma, grandpa and the rest of the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Manglona rules on motions in legal malpractice lawsuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has issued a decision relating to several motions filed in connection with a businessman's legal malpractice lawsuit against his former lawyer, G. Anthony Long, and several other co-defendants.

Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona also determined that the nature of the case filed by Byoong Seob Choi is "inherently sensational and controversial."

Manglona granted defendant Sin Ho Nam's motion to dismiss the claims against him and ordered that each party shall bear their own costs and fees.

The judge denied a motion to dismiss filed by defendants Ramon and Frances Quichocho and Tan Dingo LLC but granted their motion for Choi to state a more definite statement in his complaint.

As agreed by the parties at the hearing, Choi is given until Oct. 15, 2010, to amend his complaint to provide a more definite statement to the Quichochos.

With respect to defendants Jung Ja Kim and Soi-In, Manglona said because Soi-In is a corporation owned either jointly or separately by Choi or Kim and is a subject of family court proceedings, the court will also stay the first amended complaint as to Soi-In.

As for Choi's motion to strike Long's joinder in the motion to dismiss, the judge denied it as moot. She also denied the motion to strike Kim's pleadings.

In May 2010, Choi filed a first amended complaint against 16 defendants, including Jung Ja Kim and Soi-In Corp., G. Anthony Long, Frances and Ramon Quichocho, and Tan Dingo LLC, and Sin Ho Nam, and 20 John Does.

Counts 1 through 6 of the complaint raise various claims against Long relating to an attorney-client relationship between Long and Choi.

Counts 8 (mismanagement and or dissipation of marital assets), 10 (breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing and 11 (fraud) are claims against Jung Ja Kim only and relate to the marriage and or breakdown of the marriage between Choi and Kim.

Counts 7 (fraudulent conveyance of property), 9 (accounting) and 12 (punitive damages) are alleged against all defendants and relate to purported property conveyances from Kim.

Kim filed a motion to dismiss pursuant to the prior pending action doctrine as a result of two actions in the Family Court Division.

The Quichochos filed a motion to dismiss or for a more definite statement. Long answered the complaint. Nam filed a motion to dismiss. Long filed a joinder of motions to dismiss, but withdrew this request at the hearing.

Choi filed oppositions to all motions.

Nam moved to dismiss based on the fact that "there are no factual allegations asserting any cause of action against him." Choi conceded the motion, prompting Manglona to grant Nam's request.

On Quichochos' motion, Manglona there is a material dispute in plaintiff's claims against the couple and a summary judgment is inappropriate.

Although the allegations against the Quichochos are more than threadbare, Manglona said the court finds the allegations to be sufficiently "vague and ambiguous," and thus the Quichochos "cannot reasonably be required to frame a responsive pleading."

With respect to Kim, Manglona said Choi's argument that the current action is necessary because the divorce was completed in June 2005 is misplaced.

"Because there has been no determination as to marital property, all real and personal property of Choi and Kim retains the character it had in 2005, and the Family Court may make its findings accordingly," Manglona said.

The judge said equity requires that Choi not be permitted to pursue simultaneous claims before two different Superior Court judges.

Such a course, Manglona said, improperly taxes judicial resources and requires Kim to litigate in two forums when one is enough.

On Choi's motion to strike Kim's pleadings, Manglona determined that the first amended complaint is based in part on the alleged "nature of the case" that "law enforcement personnel of the CNMI government raided a space leased by Choi for alleged illegal gambling activities, that "Long commenced an adulterous affair with Kim, and that the defendants "willfully, and maliciously" defrauded the plaintiff.

The judge said Choi introduced all these facts.

"The court does not consider the arguments of either party to be evidence at trial, and will entertain the arguments of both Choi and Kim in ruling on the instant motions," she said.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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PSS educational leadership

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

Education Day is usually around Thanksgiving, which would be about the last week of November, but this being the first week of the school curriculum year, our minds are probably around events and matters pertaining to schools and education. The History Network, which every Social Studies teacher should be signed up to, has a Special Edition on NCLB this week. We will deal with that in a separate column.

Also, as noted previously, our venerable colleague, Francis X. Hazel, S.J. of Chuuk, took on the reform of education in his latest essay, *Make Me Be Good: Education Reform for the Islands.* We mentioned this once, and doing it twice is not to presume that we do justice to the richness and practicality of his insight, let alone the jarring effect of his "objective" intervening expat proposal, so we will deal with it in another column as well (see *http://www.micsem.org/pubs/counselor/frames/makemegoodfr.htm*).

We look at educational leadership at PSS, being one who is formally and informally concerned, so we located in a PRAXIS reference what might be standards used by our leadership, particular in its *Students First* theme.

Congruent to the Student First objective, the Educational Leadership Policy Standards: ISLLC 2008, offered by the Council of the Chief State School Officers, has six to attain this singular aim. These standards begin with "An education leader promotes the success of every student by:

1) *facilitating* the development, articulation, implementation, and stewardship of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by all stakeholders;

2) *advocating,* nurturing, and sustaining a school culture and instructional program conducive to student learning and staff professional growth;

3) *managing* the organization's operation and resources for a safe, efficient, and effective learning environment;

4)4*collaborating* with faculty and community members, responding to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilizing community resources;

5) *acting* with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical manner, and

6) understanding, *responding* to, and influencing the political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context."

We added the *italics* to focus on the verbs. The listing includes functions to clarify the standards further, but for now, six verbs will be sufficient to get our minds around what our PSS leadership intends to be about. We take No. 5 as a personal accountability standard, and No. 6 as an active *response-ability* category.

The Educational Leadership: Administration and Supervision PRAXIS test required of PSS administrators fall into five categories:

I. Determining Educational Needs
II. Curriculum Design and Instructional Improvement
III. Development of Staff and Program Evaluation
IV. School Management
V. Individual and Group Leadership Skills

One might notice that the standards' categories and the test categories are generic of any leadership position save a slight tweaking

See PSS on Next Page

The One Thing revisited

By RIK VILLEGAS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rik is a writer, marketing consultant and business instructor at Northern Marianas College. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at http://rikv.blogspot.com.

What would it take to turn your organization around? What would you describe as the one thing that is most important to shift your current status from surviving to thriving? Over a decade ago I was part of a team to develop the strategic master plan for the Northern Marianas College. The committee was composed of leadership from staff, faculty and administration, and I was the Faculty Senate president at the time. I went to bed one evening thinking about the discussion that day. The next morning I awoke from a dream, wrote down my thoughts and called it "The One Thing…"

When the team met again, I shared my thoughts with them in order to stimulate some discussion about how we could realize the dream, and the college could position itself as a vital community asset and help stimulate economic growth. We did talk about it, but there was no agreement on what "the one thing" was that could turn things around. In the ensuing years I have seen NMC go through many changes, but we are no closer today to realizing the dream I had of the college in 1999. Many of the challenges we're experiencing today were the same challenges we faced over a decade ago; however, I still believe it's not too late for the college to discover "the one thing" and become the example for positive change in the community.

I thought it would be interesting to get comments from individuals working at NMC, so I sent out an email to all the accounts at the college asking for their thoughts on what they feel "the one thing" is that would be the catalyst to turn things around at the college and positively impact the community. Here are their thoughts, with permission from some to include their name. As you read through them, ask yourself if any of the suggestions could benefit your organization and make it a better place to work, or add more to the lives of those it serves.

One respondent wanted to emphasize that NMC was built by the community, for the community, and to benefit the community. It is a public institution that serves individuals locally and abroad; however, the most immediate benefactor of NMC's work is the local community.

Dave Attao believes that the college should become the center for community transformation—meaning that everyone and any organization can interact with the college "to fulfill or exceed their needs and transform from one former being or entity to a transcending one."

Others felt that the college should transform itself by developing or enhancing specific traits. A couple of people said that "honesty" is a critical trait that should be the foundation of everything the college does, and it should be personified by its leaders. Frank Sobolewski went so far as to quote a scripture: Do not tell lies to one another (Colossians 3:9). He then prophetically warned that if "NMC is not completely honest with each other, with the Board of Regents, the CNMI Legislature, the governor, the general public, and WASC, all the rest of what we do in terms of trying to turn NMC around will be doomed to failure sooner or later."

One individual mentioned the importance of transparency internally as well as on a community level. "Internal audits would be beneficial to measure morale as well as fiduciary responsibility by making key management aware of potential misunderstandings of a particular situation/incident where quality and conduct were not meeting the desired level of expected performance and productivity within a given department."

Two individuals who did not give permission to use their names mentioned a trait that I thought was insightful: humility. All individuals and organizations will make mistakes, but rarely do they have the humility to admit them, learn from them, and become better in the process.

Two others believed that the one thing is actually a person… specifically a leader. Bruce Johnson mentioned that, as with any successful organization, change will occur through an outstanding leader who is "strong, smart, decisive, imaginative and fearless. George Patton with a Ph.D."

Geri Willis brought up the point that everyone at the college plays an important role and for NMC to realize the one thing, "all the cogs of the wheel need to be working together toward a common vision, not in isolation, to be successful and reap the benefits."

In order for people to get on one page and move toward a common vision, a paradigm shift is necessary to realign the culture at the college. Dawn Chrystal Revilla mentioned that for people to understand their roles within the institution, the college must examine everything it does and ask how it serves our students and "assists

See ONE THING on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

ONE THING

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them in their educational and personal development." She had the opportunity to work at a division of an institution that adopted a "student centered philosophy" as one of its core values. The steps that were taken to fully live this philosophy empowered individuals to do the right thing with the programs and assets with which they were entrusted.

I believe that many of the comments above can be applied to any organization in the CNMI to make it a better place to work and more importantly, allow it to better serve its customers. In reality, it will take many things to create the change that is necessary to improve and progress; however, what do you believe is the prime factor that is required to realize the dream you might have for your organization? Ask individuals within and outside your organization and you might be surprised by the great responses you'll hear. Implement the "the one thing," and you'll soon start to realize the potential your organization has to add more life to everyone it touches.

PSS

From Page 10

of content and audience, but the methodology remains the same in organizational growth of contemporary corporate theory.

It would be helpful, though, to have students (and their parents) understand this customer-service focus on their school system, and that teachers as the frontline service providers are the main loci of the decision-making process in the learning environment with administrators and supervisors as support service providers.

Perhaps that is too revolutionary for a system that inherited the hierarchy of command responsibility on the one hand, and the bureaucratic pyramid of the product and service companies from the CEO to the factory line and the vertical integration of its component parts on the other.

The current standards skews one-size fits all programs, and actually values differences as inherent in nature rather than an aberration of extremes on both ends to be lopped off in standardized assessments.

The non-performing assets in our current structures are the teachers, who are, nevertheless, saddled with the detailed, day-to-day operation of educational programs and management of students and classrooms. Unfortunately, the attempt to organize has been narrowly focused on pay and tenure, and like other organized labor, the term "collective bargaining," with its unnecessary luggage of conflict and confrontation, has been inserted surreptitiously into the Constitution without context or point of reference whatsoever, so to this day, a teachers Rep in BoE is a game of touch football that no one wants to touch!

School leadership is a function of frontline teachers first, before it is anyone else's. And there lies the jellyfish spine of the system. The leadership team at central office, at least, has the semblance of collaboration and cooperation, but the supervisors and principals relative to the teachers are systemically more autocratic than democratic, while the teachers may be individual giants but are seldom glued into a corporate voice of weight and significance.

We talk these days of revolution in education—in content, methodology and structure. Each has to be simultaneously and forcefully addressed. This week begins another year to see if we can make it happen.

Shopping for an immigration attorney

IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

Headlines over the past couple of years have not always made lawyers look very good. The public has a right to expect that attorneys will observe a high standard of ethical behavior. It creates public doubt and confusion when attorneys fail to meet this standard. This is especially true for immigration attorneys, because immigration clients have much more at risk than money or property. The outcomes of their cases determine where they can live and work and whether they can live with their families or may be forced to live in different countries. For some, the issue is even more critical: whether they will be allowed to live in a country where they are free from persecution.

In today's column we will discuss how to choose an immigration attorney or an appropriate "accredited representative." Choosing an attorney is a form of shopping, and shopping for an attorney requires the same skills as any other important consumer purchase: be as informed as possible about what you want, compare proposals, and choose the best value for the best price.

Easy to say, hard to do. Immigration is a specialty area of law; even the best lawyers, if they have no experience in the area, will not know much about immigration. Lawyers who practice outside of the CNMI know little, if anything, about the interplay between the former CNMI immigration law and its surviving remnants on the one hand, and U.S. immigration law on the other. We will discuss important information you should ask when you consult an attorney, an "accredited representative," or anyone who holds himself or herself out as an "immigration consultant" or offers to prepare immigration application documents, whether or not the consultant charges a fee.

Immigration Attorneys

The Department of Homeland Security, which is the parent agency of U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, Customs & Border Protection, and Immigration & Customs Enforcement, has standards for attorneys who practice before any of its agencies. So does the Department of Justice, which is the parent for the Executive Office for Immigration Review and the Board of Immigration Appeals. And, like state bar organizations, these agencies have disciplinary rules and can impose sanctions ranging from a public scolding to expulsion from practice before them. (These rules apply to accredited organizations as well.)

Attorneys not needed? As a starting point, DHS does not require that you have an attorney or representative. We do suggest you at least consult an attorney to determine whether what you want to do can be done without legal assistance. It's like car repair: there are a lot of simple tasks that do not require much more than attention, common sense, and an ability to read directions; and then there are a lot of other tasks that require considerable technical knowledge and expertise.

Kick the tires before you buy; check out the attorney. When you consult an attorney, you should ask more than just how much it will cost. First, make sure that the attorney is a member in good standing of the CNMI Bar Association or, if the attorney is someone outside the CNMI, that the attorney is in good standing in a bar association within the U.S. Any reputable attorney will give you that information, and you can usually check online. CNMI Bar Association members are listed on the Association's website, http://www.cnmibar.net/.

You should also ask about the attorney's experience in immigration matters, and whether the attorney belongs to any group or organization of immigration attorneys, such as the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

The next question is more delicate: whether the attorney has been disciplined by a bar association or the immigration agencies and, if so, why. You should also ask the attorney to confirm that he or she is not under any court order restricting their practice of law. Although reputable attorneys will provide this information—in fact, disclosure is required by the ethical rules governing attorney conduct—but for obvious reasons this is one of those details you also should check out yourself. Many bar associations (but, unfortunately, not ours) will state on their website whether an attorney has been disciplined. And, important for prospective immigration clients, the EOIR maintains lists of currently disciplined practitioners and previously disciplined practitioners, available at http://tinyurl.com/25nhvn9 and http://tinyurl.com/2bab6zk, respectively. The present lists are current to July 9, 2010. Both lists have links to EOIR's Rules for Professional Conduct and a factsheet on professional conduct for practitioners. DHS has its own rules for professional conduct in immigration cases, revised effective March 4, 2010; there is a summary fact sheet, with links, at http://tinyurl.com/266jywk.

Fee agreement? Fee agreements are another issue. Although the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct (which we follow in the CNMI) do not absolutely require that attorneys enter into fee agreements, they are recommended. We ourselves do not enter into written agreements with all clients, but we do with all immigration clients, except for the most minor legal chores. A fee agreement should clearly identify the client, state the purpose of the engagement, the fee (whether flat fee or hourly rate), responsibility for costs, and conditions under which either attorney or client may discharge the other. Before you sign a fee agreement, make sure you read and understand every provision.

Attorneys outside the U.S. An attorney who is licensed and in good standing in a court of general jurisdiction in the country in which he or she lives, and in actual practice of law, can represent clients whose immigration applications are filed outside the U.S. A USCIS official must give permission for the attorney to represent the alien.

Law students & law graduates. Under certain circumstances, law students and law graduates not yet admitted to practice may represent aliens before DHS, under the supervision of an attorney or accredited representative.

Recognized organizations and accredited representatives

The Immigration Courts, the BIA and USCIS all "recognize" non-profit organizations through the EOIR's Recognition & Accreditation Program. A recognized organization can designate an accredited representative, who may or may not be an attorney, and who may represent aliens either in all immigration proceedings or only before DHS. The EOIR describes the program, with links showing currently recognized organizations and accredited individuals, at http://tinyurl.com/32u9c3j. Although we do not believe any recognized organizations are currently operating in the CNMI, there are some groups we believe likely to qualify.

Recognized organizations can charge only nominal fees, if any, for their services. If you are dealing with a recognized organization, make sure that the accredited representative is authorized to practice in immigration matters, ask for a copy of the BIA recognition decision, and review the currently disciplined practitioners, link shown above.

Who can't represent you in immigration matters?

Immigration consultants, notaries public or "notarios"—quasi-judicial notaries allowed in a number of countries—cannot represent anyone before USCIS. If you do use the services of an immigration consultant, make sure that the consultant has experience in preparing application documents, uses the latest USCIS forms, and—most important—does not give you legal advice. Immigration consultants—whether they use the name or not—are not well regulated. Based on stories told to us by clients who at first went to consultants to "fix their papers," these individuals fly well under the radar and do not seek to be licensed for their immigration services. Use with caution.

What to do when the attorney-client relationship breaks down?

Clients decide to leave attorneys—and attorney fire clients—for various reasons. There may be a personal disagreement, or disagreement on how to proceed. Or the client may be dissatisfied with the rate of progress, or the results of the attorney's efforts, or the cost of pursuing the client's goal. We ourselves discharge immigration clients who make substantial misrepresentations about themselves. And sometimes the attorney stops practicing, whether as a result of retirement or some legal disability such as suspension or disbarment.

Get the file. What to do? First, you should get your file from the attorney or the attorney's staff. There may be a charge for any photocopies, but you have a right to your file.

Get legal advice. See another attorney and have the file reviewed. Sometimes the new attorney can just pick up and continue representation. But sometimes you must act quickly because of filing deadlines, in order to protect your rights. This is very important: do not delay.

If you think that your attorney has done something improper, you can file a complaint with the attorney's bar association, or with the EOIR. (You may also complaint to the EOIR about accredited representatives.) The CNMI Bar Association's website contains contact information for its Disciplinary Committee. The DHS fact sheet referenced earlier in this article contains contact information for filing a complaint with DHS Disciplinary Counsel.

A good reference is USCIS's "Finding Legal Advice" web page, at http://tinyurl.com/yc3k4hu.

Happy shopping.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune *at editor@saipantribune.com.*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

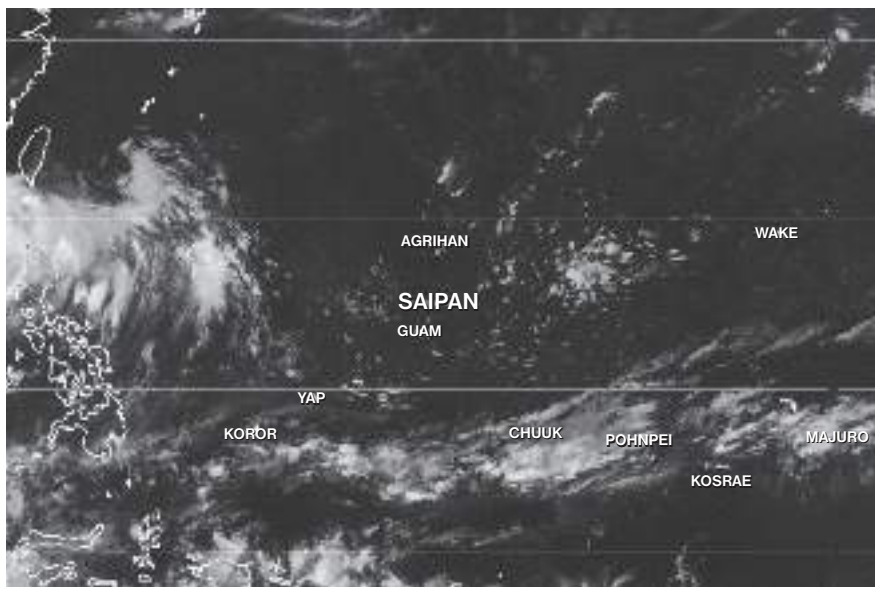
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲84	▼78
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼78
Yap	Rain	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Thundershowers	▲83	▼77
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼73
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼54
Beijing	Sunny	▲83	▼64
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲86	▼71
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼55
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲59	▼48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88	▼79
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼59
Osaka	Sunny	▲92	▼73
Paris	Fog	▲71	▼53
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲84	▼75
Rome	Sunny	▲80	▼60
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼49
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼53
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲79	▼72
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼76
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲82	▼62

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

East of the Marianas satellite imagery shows an upper-level low approaching with an area of isolated showers and thunderstorms between 14N and 19N from 150E to 158E. Well to the west of the Marianas a small area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with another upper-level low is located between 12N and 22N and west of 133Ein this same general area. An area of convection can be seen off the southern tip of Taiwan related to newly formed TD 11W. See JTWC Bulletin WTPN31 PGTW for further information on this system. The ITCZ extends across the entire Micronesian region today from 130E to east of the dateline bringing widely scattered showers and some pockets of isolated thunderstorms primarily between the latitude belts of 3N and 9N. Strongest areas of activity are currently occurring between Chuuk and Pohnpei 150E to 158E and in the Marshalls east of 167E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:56 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
7:42 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.2 Feet
2:16 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
8:20 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:21 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:21 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:31 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	7:32 AM	7:36 PM
Saturday	8:33 AM	8:24 PM
Sunday	9:34 AM	9:14 PM
Monday	10:34 AM	10:07 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily

NAGOYA-SAIPAN

DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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Business

Microbes are eating BP oil without using up oxygen

WASHINGTON (AP)—Government scientists studying the BP disaster are reporting the best possible outcome: Microbes are consuming the oil in the Gulf without depleting the oxygen in the water and creating "dead zones" where fish cannot survive.

Outside scientists said this so far vindicates the difficult and much-debated decision by BP and the government to use massive amounts of chemical dispersants deep underwater to break up the oil before it reached the surface.

Oxygen levels in some places where the BP oil spilled are down by 20 percent, but that is not nearly low enough to create dead zones, according to the 95-page report released Tuesday.

In an unusual move, BP released 771,000 gallons of chemical dispersant about a mile deep, right at the spewing wellhead instead of on the surface, to break down the oil into tiny droplets.

The idea was to make it easier for oil-eating microbes to do their job. But the risk was that the microbes would use up the oxygen in the water. So BP had to perform a delicate balancing act.

"Has it hit the sweet spot? Yes. Was it by design? Partly," said Steve Murawski, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration senior scientist who headed the federal team of researchers.

One reason that oxygen levels didn't drop too low was the natural mixing of water in the Gulf, which kept bringing in oxygen from other areas, Murawski said. Oxygen levels would have had to fall by three-quarters for the water to be classified as a dead zone, he said.

AP

In this Sept. 4, 2010 file photo, the Deepwater Horizon blowout preventer is lifted out of the Gulf of Mexico by the Helix Q4000 near the coast of Louisiana.

The Gulf of Mexico already has a yearly major problem with a natural dead zone—this year, it is the size of Massachusetts—because of farm runoff coming down the Mississippi River. Fertilizer in the runoff stimulates the runaway growth of algae, depleting the oxygen in a giant patch of the Gulf every summer.

Federal officials had been tracking oxygen levels and use of dispersants since the spill, which spewed more than 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf between April and July. Had the oxygen plummeted near dangerous levels, the dispersant use would have been stopped, said Greg Wilson, science adviser at the Environmental Protection Agency's emergency management office.

The use of dispersants has been a source of fierce debate because it involves an environmental trade-off: protecting the shoreline from oil at the risk of causing unknown problems in the deep. While dispersants make it easier for bacteria to degrade the oil, they tend to hide oil below the surface. There have also been concerns about the chemicals' toxicity and the long-term effects on marine life.

In May, the federal government convened about 50 scientists for advice on whether to continue using the dispersants. Though the researchers were divided before the meeting, they unanimously recommended continuing with the chemicals, said University of California Davis oil spill scientist Ron Tjeerdema. "The best of two options—neither of which were great—was to continue dispersing," Tjeerdema said.

Reid blames Bush, Wall Street for sick economy

By MICHAEL R. BLOOD
AP POLITICAL WRITER

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid knows who's to blame for the sickly economy. And it's not him.

In his latest TV ad Tuesday, the Democratic leader says Wall Street, former President George W. Bush, corporate job-cutters and foreign oil prices are the culprits behind the nation's economic troubles. His campaign's 30-second spot answers Republican Sharron Angle, who's been telling voters to punish Reid in November for Nevada's nation-leading unemployment, foreclosure and bankruptcy rates.

A narrator asks in disbelief, "Sharron Angle is blaming Harry Reid? Come on."

In coming to his own defense and raising the specter of the Bush years, the ad represents a shift for Reid, whose recent TV commercials have focused on depicting Angle as a conservative extremist who opposes abortion in all instances and would dismantle Social Security and the Department of Education.

The ad begins by trying to put distance between Reid and the feeble economy, but ends by revisiting his familiar theme. Angle, a tea party favorite, has "extreme ideas that will make things worse," it says.

Angle spokesman Jarrod Agen said in a statement that Reid has either "lost his mind" or needs to be reminded of his responsibilities in Washington.

It's "delusional for Harry Reid to claim ... that the Senate majority leader has nothing to do with the economy," Agen said. "Voters will reject Sen. Reid's cop out that everyone else is to blame except him."

Topics from APAFS conference receive accreditation

Local and International professional bodies cite their accreditation of the upcoming 10th Pacific Region Investment Conference to be held on Oct. 14 to 15 in Manila, Philippines.

The Guam Board of Accountancy, the Judiciary of Guam, the Investment Management Consultants Association and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, have given educational credits for the topics to be discussed in the 10th PRIC, organized by the Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies.

Topics on Asian Equity Markets Updates, Global Corporate Governance Issues, Bullion Investments, and deeper issues concerning the region's financial and management trends will be tackled for the participants.

Bud Conrad, Casey Research's chief economist, renowned financial analyst and author of the highly acclaimed book *Profiting from the World's Economic Crisis,* keynotes this year's prestigious conference and is expected to highlight the latest global financial issues and investment trends. ***(PR)***

NAVFAC Marianas awards contract to SSFM International

APRA HARBOR, Guam— Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas awarded a $40-million maximum capacity firm-fixed-price indefinite delivery indefinite quantity contract to SSFM International, Inc., a small business of Honolulu, Hawaii for construction management services in Guam.

"Small business firms are the backbone of America's workforce, and we are pleased that vital construction management services for Navy Guam projects will be delivered by a qualified small business," said NAVFAC Marianas Executive Officer, Cmdr. Cheryl Hansen.

The work to be performed includes construction oversight and quality assurance services to support U.S. Military construction projects and associated efforts undertaken by NAVFAC Marianas.

"With the operational tempo of NAVFAC Marianas trending upwards, this construction management services contract allows us to continue to meet the steady growth that we are experiencing today and expect in future years," added Hansen.

The contractor will provide services including construction oversight engineer services; quality assurance technician services; construction contractor schedule review; cost estimating services; construction safety oversight; and constructability reviews.

The contract includes one base period and four option years, and is expected to be completed by September 2015. This contract was competitively procured via the Navy Electronic Commerce Online website with 15 proposals received.

NAVFAC manages the planning, design, construction, contingency engineering, real estate, environmental, and public works support for U.S. Navy shore facilities around the world. We provide the Navy's forces with the operating, expeditionary, support and training bases they need. NAVFAC is a global organization with an annual volume of business in excess of $18 billion. As a major Navy Systems Command and an integral member of the Navy and Marine Corps team, NAVFAC delivers timely and effective facilities engineering solutions worldwide. ***(PR)***

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
10,340.69	1,091.84	2,208.89
-107.24	0.00	-24.86
-1.03%	0.00%	-1.11%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0907	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7654	Philippine Peso	44.38
British Pound	0.6489	Indian Rupee	46.545	Singapore Dollar	1.3454
Canadian Dollar	1.0348	Indonesian Rupiah	8,998.75	South Korean Won	1,170.45
Chinese Yuan	6.7877	Japanese Yen	84.195	Swiss Franc	1.0121
Euro	0.7764	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1173	Taiwan Dollar	31.881
		New Zealand Dollar	1.3833	Thailand Baht	31.155

Nation

Pressure rises on pastor who wants to burn Quran

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP)—The government turned up the pressure Tuesday on the head of a small Florida church who plans to burn copies of the Quran on Sept. 11, warning him that doing so could endanger U.S. troops and Americans everywhere.

But the Rev. Terry Jones insisted he would go ahead with his plans, despite criticism from the top U.S. general in Afghanistan, the White House and the State Department, as well as a host of religious leaders.

Jones, who is known for posting signs proclaiming that Islam is the devil's religion, says the Constitution gives him the right to publicly set fire to the book that Muslims consider the word of God.

Gen. David Petraeus warned Tuesday in an e-mail to The Associated Press that "images of the burning of a Quran would undoubtedly be used by extremists in Afghanistan—and around the world—to inflame public opinion and incite violence." It was a rare example of a military commander taking a position on a domestic political matter.

Jones responded that he is also concerned but is "wondering, 'When do we stop?'" He refused to cancel the protest set for Saturday at his Dove World Outreach Center, a church that espouses an anti-Islam philosophy.

"How much do we back down? How many times do we back down?" Jones told the AP. "Instead of us backing down, maybe it's to time to stand up. Maybe it's time to send a message to radical Islam that we will not tolerate their behavior."

Still, Jones said he will pray about his decision.

State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said the administration hoped Americans would stand up and condemn the church's plan.

"We think that these are provocative acts," Crowley said. "We would like to see more Americans stand up and say that this is inconsistent with our American values; in fact, these actions themselves are un-American."

Crowley said Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton may address the controversy at a dinner Tuesday evening in observance of Iftar, the breaking of the daily fast during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

At the White House, spokesman Robert Gibbs echoed the concerns raised by Petraeus. "Any type of activity like that that puts our troops in harm's way would be a concern to this administration," Gibbs told reporters.

Jones said he has received more than 100 death threats and has started wearing a .40-caliber pistol strapped to his hip.

AP

Rev. Terry Jones at the Dove World Outreach Center in Gainesville, Fla., Monday, Aug. 30, 2010.

The 58-year-old minister said the death threats started not long after he proclaimed in July that he would stage "International Burn-a-Quran Day." Supporters have been mailing copies of the Islamic holy text to his church to be incinerated in a bonfire.

Jones, who has about 50 followers, gained some local notoriety last year when he posted signs in front of his small church declaring "Islam is of the Devil." But his Quran-burning scheme attracted wider attention. It drew rebukes from Muslim nations and an avalanche of media interview requests just as an emotional debate was taking shape over the proposed Islamic center near the ground zero site of the 2001 terrorist attacks in New York.

RETURN TO GROUND ZERO AP

Construction workers watch as an original piece of the Twin Towers, known as a "trident," is lowered into its permanent location at the 9/11 Memorial Museum at ground zero in New York, Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2010.

Grim outlook for Democrats puts House up for grabs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Disgruntled voters, a sluggish economy and vanishing enthusiasm for President Barack Obama have put 75 seats or more in the House—the vast majority held by Democrats—at risk of changing hands and putting Republicans in charge.

The Democrats could become a victim of their own successes during the past two elections, when candidates were swept into power by antipathy for President George W. Bush and ardor for Obama. Now, eight weeks from Election Day, the Democrats are bracing for the virtual certainty of lost House seats and scrambling to hold back a wave that could hand the GOP the 40 it needs to command a majority

Obama, grasping for a way to turn the tide, on Wednesday plans to propose $30 billion in new investment tax breaks for businesses to go along with tens of billions in spending he called for on Labor Day to invigorate the slow recovery. But even if Congress acts on the requests—a long shot in a highly charged political season—there's little time left for Democrats to salvage their election chances.

With Obama's popularity slumping and the party demoralized, dozens of first- and second-term Democrats as well as longer-serving congressmen who haven't faced serious challenges in years are toiling to hold onto their jobs in places that tend to prefer Republicans. And polls show independent voters leaning toward the GOP.

When asked which party they want to control Congress, voters are split or leaning toward Republicans, national surveys say. Perhaps even more ominously for Democrats, voters are overwhelmingly sour about national issues, especially the economy.

More than 60 percent said the nation was in a state of decline and on the wrong track in the latest Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll, in which voters likely to turn out in November gave Republicans a gaping 9-point edge when asked which party they wanted to control Congress.

Authorities: 92 structures destroyed in Colo. fire

BOULDER, Colo. (AP)—David Myers knew it was time to leave when he looked out into the forest and spotted bright red flames towering skyward. Then came a blinding cloud of smoke and a deafening roar as the fire ripped through the wilderness.

"You can hear just this consumption of fuel, just crackling and burning. And the hardest thing is ... you couldn't see it because at the point the smoke was that thick," he said.

Myers was among about 3,500 people who desperately fled the fire after it erupted in a tinder-dry canyon northwest of Boulder on Monday and swallowed up dozens of homes. Residents packed everything they could into their cars and sped down narrow, winding roads to safety, encountering a vicious firestorm that melted the bumper of one couple's van.

Myers said Tuesday afternoon that people told him they believed his house was destroyed. He said while he's sure he will experience "a varied level of emotions" about losing it, he remembers how he felt when fleeing the wildfire.

"All that really matters to us was my wife and I getting each other, getting the dogs, and getting out of there," Myers said. "We grabbed a couple of things, but when we look around, and we go, 'What should I take?' it all seems pretty irrelevant."

Authorities said Tuesday night they counted 92 structures that have been destroyed and another eight that have been damaged. It's unclear how many were homes.

Gov. Bill Ritter declared a state of emergency Tuesday as officials nearly doubled the fire's estimated size to more than 7,100 acres, or 11 square miles, based on better mapping. At one point, the plume from the fire could be seen in Wyoming, 90 miles to the north.

Authorities investigated reports that the fire started when a car crashed into a propane tank. They are also trying to figure out why an automated phone alert system failed for two hours during the evacuation, forcing authorities to go door-to-door to search for people in harm's way.

ACROSS THE NATION

FBI: Flight lands in Los Angeles after bomb threat

LOS ANGELES (AP)—FBI officials say a Thai Airways flight from Bangkok has landed safely at Los Angeles International Airport after a written bomb threat was found in a bathroom on the plane. FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said airport officials were notified at 7:15 p.m. Tuesday of the alleged threat to Flight 794. The plane landed safely just after 8 p.m. and was taken to a remote area of the airport, where passengers exited the plane. Thai Airways president Piyasvasti Amranand tells The Associated Press that a message that there was a bomb on the plane was found on a bathroom mirror. Amranand says the threat was written in English with bad grammar.

Winds pushing fire through 2 dozen Detroit homes

DETROIT (AP)—Fire officials say flames have swept through at least two dozen Detroit homes, fanned by strong winds that toppled power lines across the city and knocked out service to at least 113,000 Michigan homes and businesses. Tuesday night's fires were scattered through at least three neighborhoods, including along several blocks on the east side. The National Weather Service reports wind gusts of up to 50 mph. No injuries have been reported. DTE Energy Co. and CMS Energy Corp. say 113,000 customers lost power.

Imam: NYC Islamic center to include other faiths

NEW YORK (AP)—A proposed Islamic community center near ground zero will include separate prayer spaces for Muslims, Christians, Jews and people of other faiths, the imam behind plans for the facility wrote in an op-ed piece published online Tuesday. Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf wrote in The New York Times that the attention surrounding the plans for the $100 million community center just blocks from the site of the Sept. 11 attacks "reflects the degree to which people care about the very American values under debate: recognition of the rights of others, tolerance and freedom of worship." He said it was critical that Americans "not back away" from completing the project.

LAPD chief promises thorough probe into shooting

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Police Chief Charlie Beck on Tuesday promised a thorough, transparent investigation into an officer's shooting of a knife-wielding man whose death sparked a protest in a poor immigrant neighborhood. At a late-afternoon news conference, Beck said only 40 seconds went by between the time officers made contact with Guatemalan immigrant Manuel Jamines and the moment an officer shot him twice. The Sunday shooting prompted demonstrations the following day near MacArthur Park, a densely packed neighborhood west of downtown populated with recent immigrants from Central America.

Asia

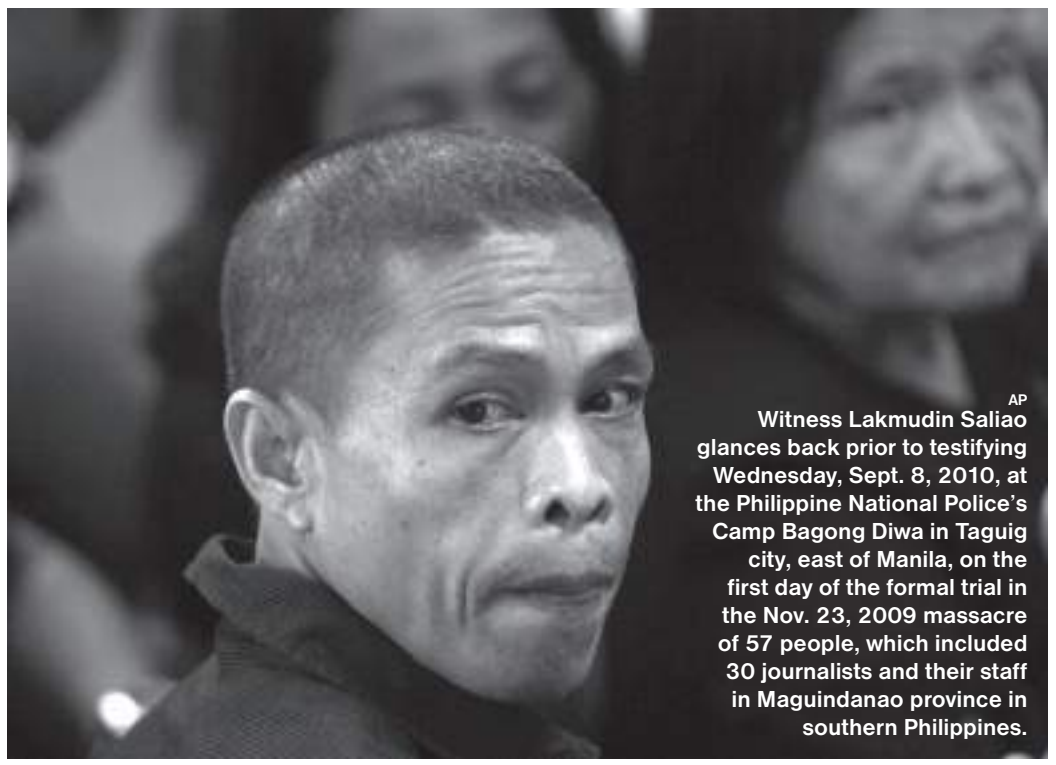
Witness testifies Filipino warlord ordered killing

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A house servant of the politically powerful clan accused in last year's massacre of 57 people told a Philippine court Wednesday that the family members plotted the killings of rivals and journalists over dinner six days before the ambush.

The witness, Lakmudin Saliao, took the stand on the first day of trial nearly 10 months after the Nov. 23 massacre in southern Maguindanao province exposed the shocking violence of Philippine politics. Among the 57 dead were 30 media workers traveling in an election convoy—making it the deadliest single attack on reporters in the world.

The patriarch of the clan, Andal Ampatuan Sr., had gathered his siblings over dinner to ask them how they can stop their political rival from running for provincial governor, one of the key regional posts that the Ampatuans had held and exploited for years, Saliao said.

Former town mayor Andal Ampatuan Jr., the scion of the clan and the prime suspect in the massacre, replied, "That's easy. If they come here just kill them all,'" Saliao told the court.



AP
Witness Lakmudin Saliao glances back prior to testifying Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010, at the Philippine National Police's Camp Bagong Diwa in Taguig city, east of Manila, on the first day of the formal trial in the Nov. 23, 2009 massacre of 57 people, which included 30 journalists and their staff in Maguindanao province in southern Philippines.

He said the elder Ampatuan then asked his children if they agreed with the plan, and according to Saliao, "Everybody laughed, saying it's OK for everybody to be killed."

Saliao said the Ampatuan patriarch ordered that his rival, Esmael Mangudadatu, must be stopped on a highway where he was supposed to pass on the way to file his candidacy papers.

It was on the same spot that troops recovered the 57 bodies gunned down and hastily buried in mass graves dug by a backhoe. Mangudadatu, who was later elected governor in the May elections, had sent his wife, sisters and other female relatives accompanied by journalists in the belief that their lives would be spared.

The Ampatuans have denied the charges. Andal Ampatuan Jr. and 16 policemen were the first to be arraigned and were led in handcuffs into the courtroom packed with anxious relatives and observers inside a Manila maximum-security prison.

Black-clad sharpshooters patrolled the premises while dozens of heavily armed police stood guard.

The carnage drew international condemnation and prompted then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to impose martial law for a week as troops cracked down on the Ampatuans—her political allies.

A prominent senator, Joker Arroyo, has recently warned that the sheer volume of the case—at least 227 witnesses are listed by the prosecution and another 373 by the defense—means it could drag on for "200 years."

Officials wouldn't comment on how long the trial will last but cautioned it will take time.

An average criminal case takes about seven years to complete due to lack of prosecutors and judges and a huge backlog of cases. The Maguindanao massacre is considered to be the largest criminal prosecution since the country's World War II war crime trials.

Big aftershock freshly damages New Zealand city

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (AP)—A magnitude-5.1 aftershock hammered New Zealand's earthquake-hit city of Christchurch on Wednesday morning, freshly damaging buildings, sparking evacuations and prompting the extension of a state of emergency for another week.

The latest quake, just four miles (6.4 kilometers) below the surface and centered six miles (10 kilometers) southeast of the city, was felt by residents as the strongest aftershock in Christchurch since Saturday's 7.1 magnitude earthquake wrecked hundreds of buildings. Nobody was reported injured by the latest temblor.

"My guts is just churning up here. When will this thing end? It is like living in a maelstrom," Christchurch Mayor Bob Parker said as workers streamed from the city's emergency headquarters.

"We have got staff in tears, we have got fire engines going through the middle of the city, power is out and a lot of people are very, very churned up by that," he told the NewstalkZB radio station. "It was a devastatingly, vicious sharp blow to the city."

Initial reports from geological agency GNS Science that the Wednesday morning temblor was magnitude-6.1 were quickly corrected downward.

Officials closed the city's main road tunnel for inspection due to concerns that the aftershock may have caused cracking to the tunnel and retaining walls leading to it, New Zealand Transport Agency local spokesman Peter Connors said.

The tunnel, built in the 1960s, links Christchurch to the port of Lyttelton.

More than 140 aftershocks have rattled the region since Saturday, and earthquake experts warned Tuesday that another strong temblor might hammer the region in coming days.

The weekend's powerful 7.1-magnitude earthquake smashed buildings and homes, wrecked roads and disrupted the central city, though nobody was killed and only two people were seriously injured—which authorities attributed to good building codes and the quake's early morning timing.

"It was as strong as the earthquake in Haiti earlier this year, which caused widespread devastation and is estimated to have killed approximately 230,000 people," Prime Minister John Key said. "Although no one lost their life ... families have been traumatized and lost their valued possessions."

On Wednesday, Key traveled north of the city to inspect houses in the town of Kaiapoi that had been torn from their foundations by the quake.

China calls in Japan envoy over boat collision

TOKYO (AP)—Diplomatic tensions between China and Japan escalated Wednesday when Beijing called in Japan's ambassador after a Chinese fishing boat collided with two Japanese patrol vessels near a chain of disputed islands and Tokyo arrested the boat's captain.

Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Song Tao summoned Japanese Ambassador Uichiro Niwa and urged Japan to stop the "illegal interception" of Chinese fishing boats, the official Xinhua News Agency reported late Tuesday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshito Sengoku urged that the situation be handled calmly.

"We will handle the matter firmly in accordance with law," he told reporters, according to Kyodo News agency. "It is important that in Japan we not get overly excited."

Japan Coast Guard spokeswoman Akane Yonemori said Wednesday that the 41-year-old Chinese captain of the fishing boat had been arrested for allegedly obstructing public duties in connection with Tuesday's collision near the chain of islands in the East China Sea.

She said the coast guard is investigating the Chinese captain on Ishigaki island, around 400 kilometers (250 miles) south of Okinawa. The ship's remaining 14 crew members will also be questioned on board, she said.

No injuries were reported from the two separate collisions that occurred within 40 minutes, Japan Coast Guard spokesman Yosuke Oi said. The two Japanese patrol vessels sustained minor damage. It was unclear if the Chinese ship was damaged.

The collisions happened in Japanese territorial waters off the northwestern coast of Japan's Kuba island, just north of uninhabited, disputed islands known as Senkaku in Japanese and Diaoyu in Chinese. About 120 miles (190 kilometers) east of Taiwan, the islands are controlled by Japan but are also claimed by China and Taiwan.

The collisions occurred after the Japanese patrol vessels ordered the Chinese ship to stop for an inspection over alleged violation of international fishing laws after it repeatedly ignored earlier warnings to exit the area, Oi said.

The Chinese trawler, carrying a crew of 15, first collided with the Japanese patrol boat Yonakuni, slightly damaging its stern. About 40 minutes later, the Chinese fishing boat made a sudden turn and collided into another patrol vessel, the Mizuki, causing a dent on its starboard side and damaging its railings, Oi said.

Jiang Yu, a spokeswoman for China's Foreign Ministry, told a regular news conference Tuesday that Beijing had been in contact with Japan over the incident and was concerned about the situation.

Women, kids among 17 dead in NW Pakistani bombing

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—A car bomb ripped through a police compound in a northwestern Pakistani city, killing 14 women and children and three officers, the latest in a string of attacks proving that Islamist militants remain a potent force in the country.

The dead were the wives and children of police officers, said Khalid Omarzai, the city's top government official. Another 94 people were wounded in Tuesday's bombing, he said, adding that they had been taken to hospitals after rescuers cleared rubble of over two dozen collapsed houses and shops.

The complex in the garrison city of Kohat houses officers' homes, a training facility and a commercial area.

Officer Mohammad Arif said there was a huge explosion in the residential area of the compound soon after the evening breaking of the daily fast during the holy month of Ramadan. Power to the area was cut, forcing emergency workers to search for victims in the dark, he said.

Kohat, the major town on the road between the provincial capital of Peshawar and several tribal areas, has been the scene of several militant attacks this year. In April, two burqa-clad suicide bombers attacked refugees lined up to register for food and other relief supplies in the district, killing 41 people and wounding dozens more.

ACROSS THE NATION

Japan reporter tricked captors into using Twitter

TOKYO (AP)—A Japanese journalist held hostage in Afghanistan for five months managed to send out a message via Twitter that he was alive when his captors asked him how to use a cell phone. Just days before he was freed, Kosuke Tsuneoka said one of the militants brought him his new cell phone and asked the prisoner to set it up. The younger militants were more interested in accessing Al-Jazeera on the phone, but Tsuneoka shifted their attention to Twitter, successfully getting them to ask him to demonstrate how it worked. He then sent the two following tweets: "i am still allive, but in jail" and "here is archi in kunduz. in the jail of commander lativ."

Singapore prods locals to speak better English

SINGAPORE (AP)—"Borrow me $5 can?" may not be the most graceful way to ask for a few dollars, but it's music to the ears of many Singaporeans. But as Singapore cements its position as a financial services hub and top regional tourist destination, the government is redoubling efforts to persuade locals to speak standard English. The government insists mastery of English is imperative to raise living standards as the economy shifts to services from manufacturing. Some worry, however, that the island's unique patois known as Singlish could be lost, and with it an important cultural glue unifying the multiethnic, multi-religious city-state of 5.1 million people.

Australia to give US evidence in diving death case

SYDNEY (AP)—A state government in Australia has agreed to turn over case documents to prosecutors in the U.S. hoping to charge an Alabama man with the drowning death of his wife during a honeymoon scuba dive on the Great Barrier Reef. Gabe Watson is serving an 18-month jail term in Queensland state after pleading guilty to manslaughter in the death of 26-year-old Tina Watson during a 2003 scuba diving trip. Watson is due to be released in November and will then likely be deported back to the U.S., where Alabama officials want to try him for Tina's death. Alabama Attorney General Troy King has said he believes that Watson devised a plot in Alabama to kill his wife on their honeymoon, which would give the state jurisdiction. He also says there are no international standards on double jeopardy that prevent the U.S. state from trying Watson again over the death.

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Skin infections pose risk to Chilean miners

SAN JOSE MINE, Chile (AP)—Rescuers have sent down antibiotics and ointments and were working Tuesday to blast cool, dry air to 33 miners trapped a half-mile underground for more than a month. All the men have suffered from skin sores, foot fungi or abrasions, and infections could prove dangerous in the sweltering heat and humidity, with rescue at least six weeks away. Scrapes, cuts and infections like athlete's foot and jock itch are usually just minor annoyances. But trapped as they are in unrelenting 86-degree (30-degree Celsius) heat, with humidity at 88 percent, the miners don't have any way of drying out.

Iraqi soldier fires on US troops, kills 2

BAGHDAD (AP)—An Iraqi soldier fired a barrage of bullets at American troops protecting one of their commanders during a visit to an Iraqi army base Tuesday and killed two of them, the first U.S. servicemen to die since President Barack Obama declared an end to combat operations in the country last week. Even after the U.S. dramatically reduced the number of troops and rebranded its mission in Iraq, the attack was a reminder that Americans still have to defend themselves in a dangerous country where Iraqi forces only have a tenuous hold on security. Nine Americans were wounded in Tuesday's shooting.

Abbas asks US to step into settlement dispute

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said he has asked the U.S. to settle a dispute with Israel over settlement expansion that is threatening to derail Mideast peace talks. Israel's 10-month partial freeze on new construction in West Bank settlements ends Sept. 26, and Israeli officials have indicated they will not extend the freeze as is. Abbas has said he'll quit peace talks with Israel unless the restrictions remain in place. Abbas said late Monday that he has asked the U.S. "to intervene in the settlement issue." The Obama administration has promised an active role in the talks, Abbas told reporters accompanying him on his way back from Washington, where direct negotiations were launched last week after a hiatus of nearly two years.

Gunmen burst into factory in Honduras, kill 18

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Men armed with assault rifles burst into a shoe factory and opened fire Tuesday, killing at least 18 workers and wounding five, Honduran authorities said.

National police spokesman Leonel Sauceda called the attack in the northern city of San Pedro Sula "a massacre."

Authorities initially reported 15 dead, but three of the injured later died of their wounds, said assistant police commissioner Hector Ivan Mejia.

"Apparently the massacre was carried out as part of a turf battle between small-scale drug gangs, given that that neighborhood has conflicts because of the presence of gang members," Mejia said.

San Pedro Sula has been a hotbed of gunbattles between drug traffickers and among the country's Mara street gangs.

Sauceda said at least four men using assault rifles were involved in the attack at the small shoe factory. He said 23 employees were present and all were either killed or wounded.

Also Tuesday, thousands of supporters of former President Manuel Zelaya staged street protests in the capital, Tegucigalpa, to demand the ousted leader's return as well as a 15 percent rise in the minimum wage, currently about $290 a month.

Zelaya was removed in a June 2009 coup, and his term expired in January. He was replaced by Porfirio Lobo, who won a fall presidential elections that had been scheduled before Zelaya's ouster.

Lobo has said Zelaya, who has been living in the Dominican Republic, is welcome to return to Honduras, but says he must face charges of fraud, usurping other institutions' powers and falsifying documents.

The demonstrators included unionized workers, government employees and students. They blocked traffic in at least two points in the city, and demonstrations were held in other cities.

One small group of masked protesters shattered windows at a television station, the offices of the country's Human Rights Commission and a bank branch.

AP

Relatives of people killed in a shoe factory embrace near the factory in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, Tuesday Sept. 7, 2010.

Floods leave tens of thousands homeless in Mexico

VILLAHERMOSA, Mexico (AP)—Weeks of torrential rains have unleashed flooding in huge swaths of southern Mexico, forcing tens of thousands of people from their homes.

Tens of thousands more are sleeping on their roofs, refusing to abandon their possessions even as the rivers around them rise rapidly.

Authorities on Tuesday started releasing 2,000 cubic meters (71,000 cubic feet) of water per second from four damns in the region that have reached capacity. That caused several rivers to overflow.

Hipolito Hernandez swiftly hauled many of his belongings onto his roof as the Rio Carrizal jumped its banks and flooded dozens of home in the farming community of Sauces in the Gulf coast state of Tabasco.

Hernandez, 38, gave some of his possessions to relatives who went to shelters but he stayed put. In 2007, he lost everything when he left his home during flooding that left 1 million homes underwater and killed 33 people.

"We are waiting to see what happens, we can still withstand this flood," Hernandez said

The flooding has affected all four southernmost Mexican states: Tabasco, Veracruz, Chiapas and Oaxaca. People in the region are accustomed to severe flooding every year, and the government often struggles to persuade residents to leave dangerous zones.

In Tabasco, the homes of more than 124,000 people have been severely flooded. More than 187,000 hectares of crops belonging to 20,000 people have been lost.

But only 2,000 people in the state are in shelters.

"They are refusing to leave their homes and they don't want to go to shelters because they have a culture of living with water," Tabasco Gov. Andres Granier said during a meeting with President Felipe Calderon, who flew over the affected areas Tuesday and walked through some flooded towns.

Granier warned Calderon the situation could become even worse than in 2007 as record rainfall is expected.

"What worries me is that the worst is yet to come for Tabasco," Granier said. "The state and these people cannot keep suffering these problems each year, or live in permanent uncertainty."

Already, authorities said the region has received twice the amount of rainfall that normally falls during the season, which does not officially end until November.

Report: Castro blasts Ahmadinejad as anti-Semitic

HAVANA (AP)—Fidel Castro criticized Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad for what he called his anti-Semitic attitudes and questioned his own actions during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 during interviews with an American journalist he summoned to Havana to discuss fears of global nuclear war.

Jeffrey Goldberg, a national correspondent for The Atlantic, blogged on the magazine's website Tuesday that he was on vacation last month when the head of the Cuban Interests Section in Washington—which Cuba maintains there instead of an embassy—called to say Castro had read his recent article about Israel and Iran and wanted him to come to Cuba.

Goldberg asked Julia Sweig, a Cuba-U.S. policy expert at the Council on Foreign Relations, to accompany him, and the pair spent portions of three days talking with Castro.

Cuba's state-controlled media reported Aug. 31 that Goldberg and Sweig met with Castro and attended the dolphin show at Havana's aquarium, but the blog was the first to reveal details of what they discussed.

Goldberg said their first meeting lasted five hours and featured appearances by Castro's wife, Dalia, his son Antonio, and several bodyguards, two of which held his elbow to steady Castro when he moved.

"His body may be frail, but his mind is acute, his energy level is high," wrote Goldberg, who also noted Castro's self-deprecating humor.

The 84-year-old ex-president wore full military fatigues and an olive-green cap while addressing university students last week, and had previously appeared in public in a military shirt. But Goldberg saw Castro in a red shirt, sweat pants, and black New Balance sneakers.

He said Castro, who himself has been a fierce critic of Israel, "repeatedly returned to his excoriation of anti-Semitism," chiding Ahmadinejad for denying the Holocaust. Castro said that Iran could further the cause of peace by "acknowledging the 'unique' history of anti-Semitism and trying to understand why Israelis fear for their existence."

The gray-bearded revolutionary related to Goldberg a story from his childhood that has been detailed by some biographers: that he overheard classmates saying Jews killed Jesus Christ.

"I didn't know what a Jew was. I knew of a bird that was a called a 'Jew,' and so for me the Jews were those birds," Goldberg quoted Castro as telling him. Castro later added, "This is how ignorant the entire population was."

According to Goldberg, Castro said, "I don't think anyone has been slandered more than the Jews. I would say much more than the Muslims."

UN reports over 500 rapes in eastern Congo

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The United Nations reported Tuesday that more than 500 systematic rapes were committed by armed combatants in eastern Congo since late July—more than double the number previously reported—and accepted partial responsibility for not protecting citizens.

U .N. Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Atul Khare told the U.N. Security Council that at least 267 more rapes occurred in another area of the country's east, in addition to 242 rapes earlier reported in and around Luvungi, a village of about 2,200 people located about 20 miles (30 kilometers) from a U.N. peacekeepers' camp.

"While the primary responsibility for protection of civilians lies with the state, its national army and police force," said Khare, "clearly, we have also failed. Our actions were not adequate, resulting in acceptable brutalization of the population of the villages in the area. We must do better."

The area peacekeeping force, called MONUSCO, on Sept. 1 launched an operation using 750 troops to back efforts by Congolese security forces to arrest the perpetrators of the attacks, said Khare. At least 27 rebels armed with automatic rifles have surrendered and at least four more have been arrested, he said.

Meanwhile, Khare said, peacekeepers will undertake more night patrols, and perform more random checks on communities. The U.N. is also looking into ways of providing peacekeepers with mobile phones by installing a high frequency radio in Luvungi, he said.

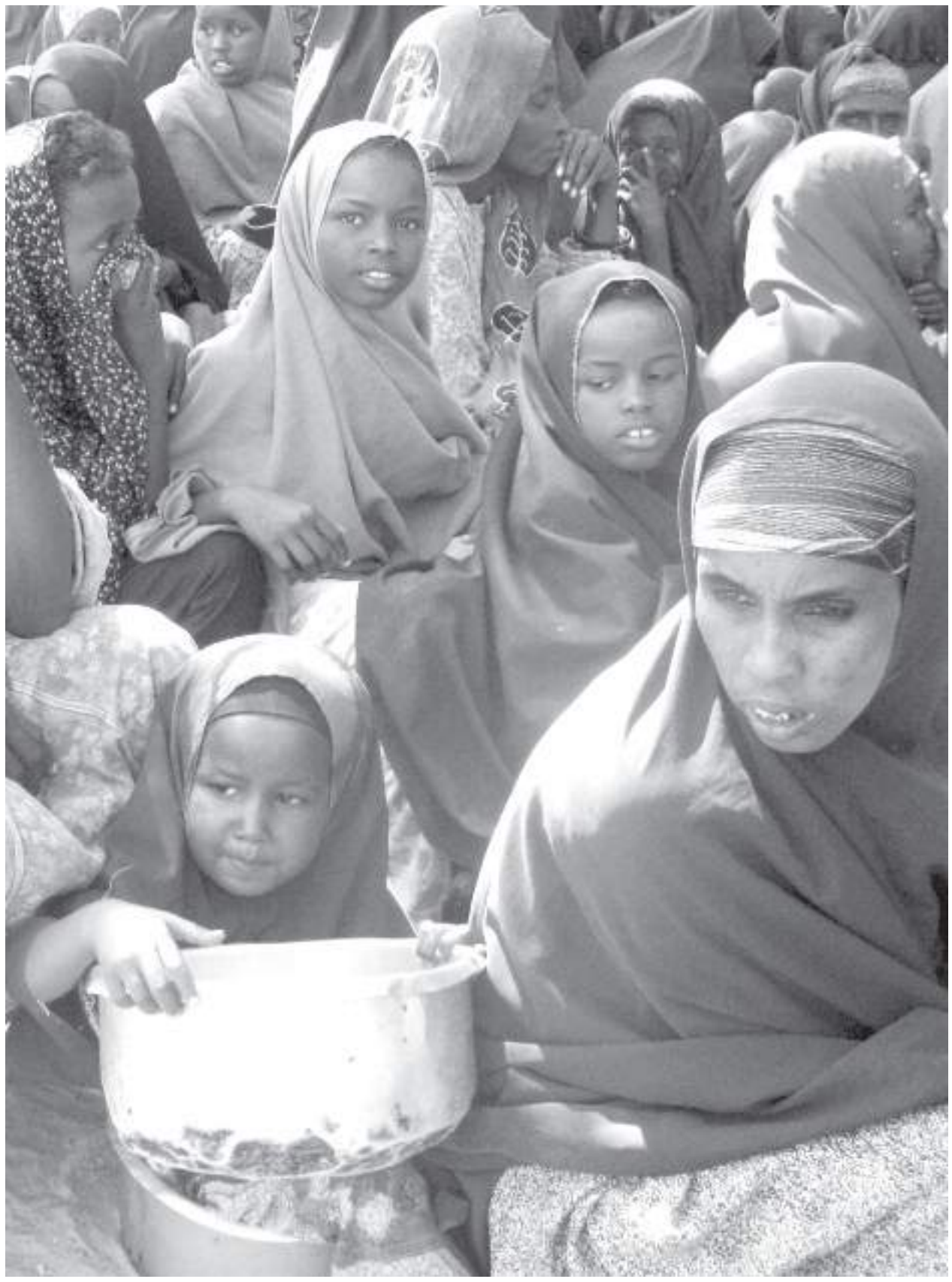
Rape as a weapon of war has become shockingly commonplace in eastern Congo, where the government army and U.N. peacekeepers have failed to defeat the few thousands rebels responsible for a protracted conflict fueled by vast mineral reserves. Luvungi is a farming center on the main road between Goma, the eastern provincial capital, and the major mining town of Walikale.

Khare told reporters after the council session that around 15,000 rapes are reported in Congo each year.

Ambassador Susan Rice, the U.S. representative to the United Nations, called Tuesday's briefing "very frank, comprehensive and illuminating" and said she looked forward to more sessions examining ways to prevent future mass rapes in Congo.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in recent days sent Khare to Congo to investigate why U.N. peacekeepers didn't learn about at least 242 mass rapes in the Luvungi area from July 30 to Aug. 4 until Aug. 12, when it was informed by the International Medical Corps which was treating many of the victims.

Focus



Displaced women and children wait to receive food donated by World Food Program (WFP) in Mogadishu,Somalia, Monday,Aug. 23, 2010.

UNICEF refocuses on poorest of poor children

By ANITA SNOW
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.N. children's agency says it has failed to reach millions of the world's neediest boys and girls in slums and remote countryside and is shifting to a strategy of getting critical health care services to the poorest of the poor.

UNICEF's new approach would likely concentrate more on such initiatives as training rural health workers and building schools in remote areas, and less on building big modern hospitals and universities in cities, said Charlie MacCormack of the non-governmental Save the Children, which UNICEF consulted. It would cost less but also demand more planning and effort, he said.

"This is a refocus for UNICEF, ensuring that equity reaches into the most deprived areas," the agency's new executive director, veteran American diplomat Anthony Lake, told The Associated Press.

The UNICEF report comes ahead of a global summit to study the U.N.'s Millennium Development Goals—objectives it set 10 years ago to halve rates of fatal disease, illiteracy, hunger and poverty by 2015 from what they were in 1990.

It says the global mortality rate for children under 5 has been reduced from 90 to 65 per 1,000 live births since 1990. But it notes that mortality rates for infants and toddlers remain high in especially destitute regions such as sub-Saharan Africa, where one of seven children died before their fifth birthday in 2008.

In developing countries overall, boys and girls from the poorest 20 percent of households are twice as likely to die before age 5 as those from the richest 20 percent, the report says.

Dr. Paul Farmer, co-founder of the Boston-based Partners in Health, said in an e-mail from Rwanda that UNICEF's new strategy, "is an important step toward moving resources down the steep slope of inequality to the children living, and often dying, in poverty around the globe." His internationally renowned charity uses the same strategy to provide direct health care services to some of the most destitute communities in Haiti and parts of Africa.

"They are right to point out that reported decreases in child mortality belie ballooning inequality and worse outcomes among the most vulnerable: mostly maternal and child health care and education to about 100 households in each of their villages.

Lake said that extensive data analysis since he joined UNICEF in May shows that grass-roots health, education and other development programs inside the most vulnerable communities could improve the lives of the world's poorest children significantly and ensure they live long enough to go to school.

The findings are contained in UNICEF's annual report, "Progress for Children: Achieving the MDGs with Equity." It comes as U.N. member states start taking stock this month of progress made in the decade since they set Millennium Development Goals—the so-called MDGs—for improving life in developing countries.

Along with community outreach, UNICEF is also studying conditional cash transfers, which reward people for good behavior such as visiting a doctor. The theory is that cash rewards reduce immediate hardship for poor people while reinforcing small but significant actions they can take to improve their long-term stability.

Lawrence Haddad, director of the Institute of Development Studies based in the U.K., was among development experts recently invited to sit on a panel reviewing UNICEF's new focus. On his blog, "Development Horizons," Haddad wrote last month that the ideas presented "did challenge some of my preconceived ideas" and made him think that the refocus could work.

"The idea isn't new, but getting serious about it and developing a strategy like this is unusual," said MacCormack of Save the Children.

"It's harder to reach and impact those who are most marginalized," MacCormack said in a telephone interview from the international group's headquarters in Westport, Connecticut. "They are often geographically remote, social pariahs, discriminated against."

He said that countries including China, South Korea, Taiwan, Canada and throughout Scandinavia have been especially effective in using community outreach to improve the lives of their most marginalized citizens.

"We are not going to create a level playing field for the world's young people if we don't make this effort," Save the Children's MacCormack said. "And for the U.N., there is no way to get close to achieving the Millennium Development Goals unless we make an effort to get to the hardest to reach."

> *UNICEF's new strategy is an important step toward moving resources down the steep slope of inequality to the children living, and often dying, in poverty around the globe.*

Environment

Start school year with EPA's Energy Star

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is encouraging students and their parents to support the environment by shopping for back-to-school clothes and supplies at retail stores that have earned the Energy Star label. Energy Star saves Americans energy and helps them protect the environment by avoiding greenhouse gas emissions.

Energy Star labeled stores have features that set them apart from typical stores, such as energy efficient lighting, registers that go to sleep when not in use, and store processes for shutting off equipment during closed hours. Energy Star labeled stores are independently verified to meet strict energy efficiency performance levels set by EPA. Stores that have earned the Energy Star perform in the top 25 percent of stores nationwide, use at least 35 percent less energy and emit at least 35 percent less greenhouse gas emissions than their peers.

Through Energy Star, EPA works with nearly 150 retail companies across the country—including 40 of the Top 100 U.S. retailers—to help them manage energy use, lower utility bills, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Together, Energy Star partners, including Kohl's Department Stores, JCPenney, Verizon Wireless, Staples, and Target, have more than 900 Energy Star labeled stores in 48 states, making it easy to shop green from coast to coast.

ON THE NET

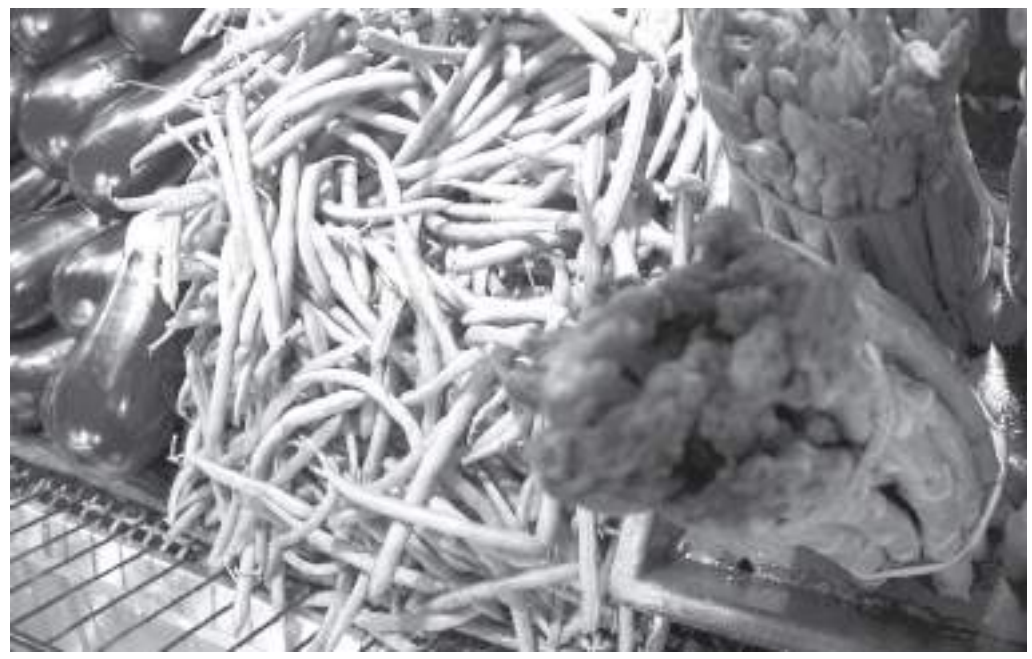
- http://www.energystar.gov/LabeledStores
- http://www.energystar.gov/StoreLocator

Families can also help protect the environment by choosing Energy Star qualified products such as computers and desk lamps. Energy Star qualified lamps use less energy mainly because they include compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), which use 75 percent less energy than regular incandescent light bulbs. Computers that have earned the Energy Star use up to 65 percent less energy than conventional models.

Of almost 5 million commercial buildings in the United States, retail buildings spend the most on energy and are responsible for the second-largest percentage of greenhouse gas emissions, spending more than $21 billion on energy and emitting nearly 150 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent each year. If all the stores in the country reduced their energy use by just 10 percent, the U.S. would save more than $2 billion and help reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by 15 million metric tons annually.

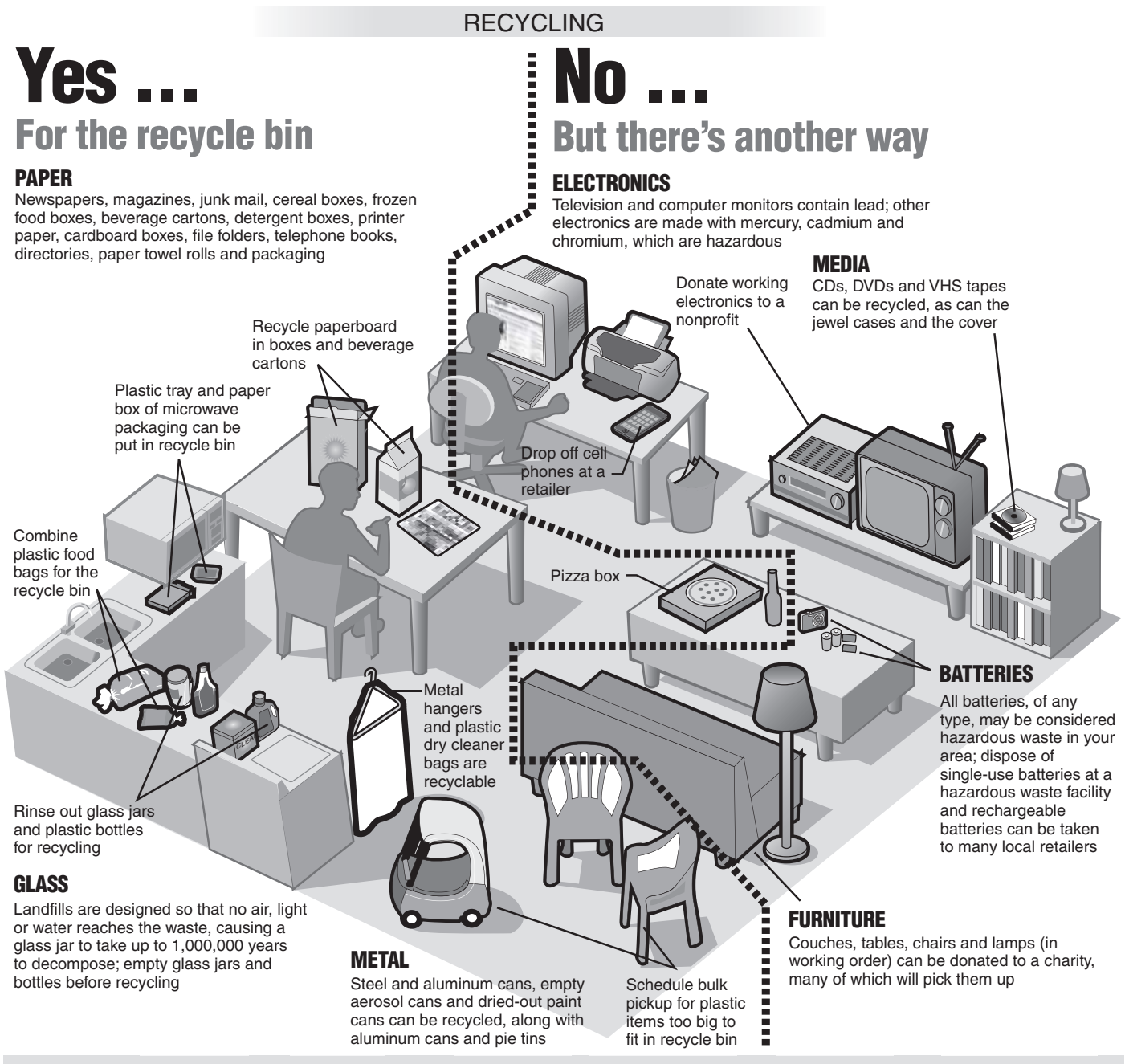
EPA's online registry that lists all retail stores that have earned the Energy Star is updated daily.

- Find stores nearby that have earned EPA's Energy Star: http://www.energystar.gov/LabeledStores
- Find stores that sell Energy Star qualified products: http://www.energystar.gov/StoreLocator ***(EPA)***



MCT

"Do Your Part" for the planet and your family's health and go meatless for at least one day a week.


RECYCLING
Yes ...
For the recycle bin
PAPER
Newspapers, magazines, junk mail, cereal boxes, frozen food boxes, beverage cartons, detergent boxes, printer paper, cardboard boxes, file folders, telephone books, directories, paper towel rolls and packaging
No ...
But there's another way
ELECTRONICS
Television and computer monitors contain lead; other electronics are made with mercury, cadmium and chromium, which are hazardous
MEDIA
CDs, DVDs and VHS tapes can be recycled, as can the jewel cases and the cover
Donate working electronics to a nonprofit
Recycle paperboard in boxes and beverage cartons
Plastic tray and paper box of microwave packaging can be put in recycle bin
Drop off cell phones at a retailer
Combine plastic food bags for the recycle bin
Pizza box
BATTERIES
All batteries, of any type, may be considered hazardous waste in your area; dispose of single-use batteries at a hazardous waste facility and rechargeable batteries can be taken to many local retailers
Metal hangers and plastic dry cleaner bags are recyclable
Rinse out glass jars and plastic bottles for recycling
GLASS
Landfills are designed so that no air, light or water reaches the waste, causing a glass jar to take up to 1,000,000 years to decompose; empty glass jars and bottles before recycling
METAL
Steel and aluminum cans, empty aerosol cans and dried-out paint cans can be recycled, along with aluminum cans and pie tins
Schedule bulk pickup for plastic items too big to fit in recycle bin
FURNITURE
Couches, tables, chairs and lamps (in working order) can be donated to a charity, many of which will pick them up
PLASTIC
Some waste haulers accept plastics stamped 1 through 7, but check with your waste hauler to see what is acceptable
1 PETE Polyethylene terephthalate Drink, detergent bottles
2 HDTE High-density polyethylene Milk bottles, shopping bags
3 PVC Polyvinyl chloride Shampoo bottles, shrink wrap
4 LDPE Low-density plyethylene Dry cleaning bags, squeeze bottles
5 PP Polypropylene Ketchup bottles, caps, straws
6 PS Polystyrene Egg cartons, carryout containers
7 OTHER DVDs, iPod, computer cases
Source: www.epa.gov; Waste Management, The Orange County Register Graphic: Molly Zisk
© 2009 MCT

Do your part with Meatless Mondays

By TERRI BENNETT
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

When you stop and really think about all the meat you consume in just one day, it starts to really add up. From bacon at breakfast, that chicken Caesar salad at lunch, to ground beef tacos for dinner, many of us chow down on several meat products each day. Do Your Part for the planet and your family's health and go meatless for at least one day a week.

The "Meatless Monday" movement is quickly gaining steam across the country. There are celebrity chefs joining the cause, major magazines doing cover stories on the benefits, and websites devoted to helping people reduce the meat in their diet. Want to know why it's a good thing? For one, going meatless at least one day a week will help you significantly lower the amount of saturated fat you eat, help you lose weight, cut down your risk of cancer and some preventable diseases such as diabetes. It also means you'll be eating a more plant-based diet which is better for your heart and overall health.

And don't forget about the health of our planet. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations estimates that the global meat industry is responsible for nearly 20 percent of all manmade greenhouse gases; more than the entire transportation sector! In the U.S. alone, it's estimated that the meat sector is responsible for 40 percent of pesticide use, half of the antibiotic use, a third of the nitrogen and phosphorus loads in freshwater resources and almost two-thirds of manmade ammonia, which contributes significantly to acid rain. Plus it's estimated to take nearly 2500 gallons of water just to produce one pound of ground beef and countless thousands of gallons more are polluted by animal waste.

Now that you know the many reason to reduce meat consumption, start by making a plan. It'll be easier to keep your pledge of cutting out one day's worth of meat each week if you plan out your meals in advance. Not sure what to cook? There are many resources out there to help you create satisfying meat-free meals. Whether it's a website or a new cookbook — inspiration is everywhere. You can try substituting things like tofu for meat into some of your family's favorite dishes. This is a great solution for casserole type dishes. You can also find veggie based burgers, sausage or even chicken nuggets. At my house, spicy black bean burgers have turned into one of our favorite meat-free meals. Check out DoYourPart.com/columns for a list of meat-free resources that will help you get started and keep you motivated.

Remember, what you and your family eats has a direct impact on your health and the health of our planet. If you want to make the best choice for both, meatless Mondays are a perfect way to Do Your Part.

Life & Style

Tyson talks friendship with Tupac–and his regret

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—When Mike Tyson looks back on his friendship with Tupac Shakur, he thinks about the rapper's big heart, explosive anger — and the one regret he has about their relationship.

"He always wanted me to smoke weed (marijuana) with him, and I never did it, and I wish I did," Tyson said in a recent phone interview.

Tyson said he declined because he was a closet smoker and didn't want it to get out that he smoked the drug. Now, when he looks back on the lost opportunity, he says: "That's my biggest regret."

Tyson's friendship with Shakur is the subject of a new documentary, "One Night in Vegas: Tyson & Tupac," which airs Tuesday on ESPN.

The 25-year-old rapper was shot after a Tyson fight in Las Vegas on Sept. 7, 1996; he died six days later.

"He didn't last long, but the time he did last, every minute, every tenth of a moment was explosive," Tyson said.

Tyson

The documentary chronicles their relationship, which Tyson said took hold when he was imprisoned in 1992 for rape.

"Every day, he would call me or get a chance to call me or send a message," said Tyson. "He would get word to me in prison."

By the time Tyson was released in 1995, Shakur would be jailed for sex abuse; he was released on bond later that year. When he got out of prison, Tyson and Shakur's friendship deepened. Both found it difficult to find people who truly cared for them, Tyson said.

"Our problem was we always had to worry about someone betraying us, our closest friends," Tyson said.

Friendship was so important to Shakur that he criticized Tyson when he selected a song from rapper Redman as his intro music at a fight.

"He said, 'Don't you ever play those (expletive) songs again, they don't give a (expletive) about you,'" Tyson recalled. "When he said that, it pierced my soul. ... I felt like I did something wrong."

After that talk, Tyson decided Shakur's raps would be his intro music for life.

It was partly because Tyson had chosen Shakur's music as his fight music that Shakur went to Tyson's fight in Las Vegas. He made a special rap for Tyson's big night. After the fight, which Tyson won by knockout, Shakur was to join Tyson at a victory party. But he never made it.

"I felt extremely guilty because I felt if he didn't come to this fight, that would have never have happened," he said. "It's just so crazy that we had talked every day for a week."

Tyson, 44, said the world never understood the real Shakur.

"He was probably a misguided warrior. He had a heart as big as this planet," Tyson said. "He had so much love and compassion, and you couldn't even see it under his rage."

It's because of those qualities that he remains larger than life in death, he said.

"He's going to last until the time this Earth comes to an end," he said. "I'm glad to be a part of his life and to have known him."

AP
The elegant marble temple of Athena Nike, fronted by four slender Ionic columns, stands free of scaffolding on the Athens Acropolis, Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2010.

Acropolis' Nike temple rises again

By NICHOLAS PAPHITIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—After a decade-long facelift, the ancient Greek temple of Athena Nike is back up, patched up and unfettered on the Acropolis.

The slender marble building first erected in the 5th century B.C. was unburdened of its scaffolding in recent days—10 years after being completely dismantled for repairs.

Unlike other ancient monuments battered by war or natural disaster, the four-columned temple near the entrance of the world-renowned Athens citadel fell prey to the best of intentions: Previous restorations simply hadn't stood the tests of time.

Athena Nike had two dates with restoration crews over the last two centuries—one in 1935, another in the 1830s—and the latest top-to-bottom refurbishment was aimed to fix mistakes from previous restoration efforts for good.

"We have used the latest technology, following successful experimentation with stress and aging," project head Dionysia Mihalopoulou told The Associated Press on the Acropolis on Tuesday. "The choice and use of materials was the best possible, they will not corrode."

The 1935 restoration involved extensive use of concrete and iron joints to hold the marble blocks together. When the iron rusted, the marble cracked, threatening the temple's long-term survival. This time, the iron was switched for titanium—a metal as strong as steel, but much more resistant to corrosion.

"This third restoration was dictated by extensive damage and structural problems, both in the foundations and the upper structure," said Mihalopoulou, a civil engineer.

Starting in 2000, workers took down 315 marble sections weighing up to 2-1/2 tons, laying bare a concrete foundation slab that was replaced by a stainless steel grid. Crews replaced the concrete additions with sections of new marble from ancient quarry sites—whose brilliant white contrasts with the old stone's patina in places like the walls and columns to make clear they are modern additions.

Walters, Letterman compare notes on heart surgery

NEW YORK (AP)—Barbara Walters is feeling wonderful after heart surgery in May—and has practically no scar, she added proudly Tuesday as she returned to active duty on talk show "The View" after taking the summer off for recovery.

"I would like to say, once and for all, to all the people who say, 'How are you?': I'm FINE!" she told viewers as the audience gave her a rousing welcome.

Joining the welcome party was David Letterman in his first visit. The "Late Show" host had open-heart surgery a decade ago, and he and Walters spent much of his appearance gratefully comparing notes.

"It's plumbing, really. You're talking about pipes, valves and pumps," said Letterman, who underwent an emergency quintuple bypass in January 2000. When the surgeons go to work, he marveled, "amazing things are accomplished."

"It's more than a miracle," he said.

Letterman recalled when he got the post-surgery good news from the doctor.

"He puts his hand on my shoulder and he said, 'Everything went great.' And that was the best part of the whole thing—that and, later, the sponge bath," he cracked.

In mock oneupmanship in his exchange with Walters, Letterman declared: "I had coronary artery disease. You just blew out a valve."

To which Walters retorted: "I have a pig valve. YOU don't have a pig valve!"

"I have other pig parts on me, though," Letterman joked ruefully, in an apparent reference to a scandal a year ago involving revelations about his affairs with co-workers.

Then, when talk turned to his flop as host of the Oscars in 1995, Letterman pretended to have chest pains. Asked whether he would ever host the Oscarcast again, he said no.

"I had my shot, I screwed it up—and almost put an end to the Academy Awards," he joked. "They were nice enough to ask me to do it again, and I said, 'What, are you drinking?!'"

Letterman redeclared support for Conan O'Brien, the short-lived "Tonight Show" host who was unseated by Jay Leno, his predecessor, when Leno reclaimed the job during last season's late-night turmoil at NBC.

Peter Carey, Emma Donoghue up for Booker Prize

LONDON (AP)—Australian writer Peter Carey moved closer to a literary hat trick Tuesday when he was named a finalist for fiction's prestigious Booker Prize, an award he has already won twice.

Carey's "Parrot and Olivier in America"—a U.S. odyssey inspired by philosopher Alexis de Tocqueville—is one of six contenders for the 50,000-pound ($77,000) prize, which guarantees a glut of media attention and a big boost in sales.

Carey took home Bookers in 1988 for "Oscar and Lucinda" and in 2001 for "True History of the Kelly Gang." He would be the first writer to win the prize three times, but is considered a long shot.

The early favorite, according to bookmaker William Hill, is British writer Tom McCarthy, whose wildly experimental "C"—the story of a technology-obssessed 20th-century everyman—has drawn comparisons to James Joyce.

William Hill made McCarthy the 2-1 favorite, and offered 5-1 odds on a Carey win.

For rival bookmaker Ladrokes, the favorite is Irish writer Emma Donoghue for "Room," the story of a boy and his mother held captive in a garden shed. The book has drawn criticism from some who see parallels with the real-life case of Austria's Josef Fritzl, who kept his daughter locked in a basement for more than two decades.

Donoghue has said her book was "triggered," rather than inspired, by the Fritzl case.

The other finalists are "In a Strange Room" by South Africa's Damon Galgut, a previous Booker finalist; philosophical comedy "The Finkler Question" by Britain's Howard Jacobson; and "Small Island" author Andrea Levy's "The Long Song," the story of a slave on a 19th-century Jamaican sugar plantation,

Former poet laureate Andrew Motion, who is chairing the judging panel, said the six books "demonstrate a rich variety of styles and themes—while in every case providing deep individual pleasures."

The winner will be announced at a ceremony in London on Oct. 12.

Deputy who arrested Mel Gibson sues own department

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Los Angeles sheriff's deputy who arrested Mel Gibson for drunken driving in 2006 sued his department on Tuesday, claiming he has since been ostracized and passed over for promotions by the agency.

Deputy James Mee's lawsuit seeks unspecified damages for loss of income, benefits, medical expenses and for emotional distress and mental suffering. Mee, who is Jewish, claims he was forced by his superiors to remove references to anti-Semitic slurs uttered by the actor-director during the arrest. Part of that report containing the slurs was leaked to the celebrity website TMZ.com, which also first reported the lawsuit.

Mee claims he was transferred after Gibson's arrest and has not been awarded promotions to a traffic investigator or motorcycle deputy position because of the alleged discrimination. The lawsuit claims the department violated its policies by taking four years to investigate the leak and that has hurt Mee's ability to be promoted.

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore denied the allegations.

"The whole story is not being told in this lawsuit and we look forward to telling it," Whitmore said. "It has nothing to do with religious discrimination. We categorically deny those allegations."

Mee was the subject of a criminal investigation into the leaking of his initial report. The Los Angeles district attorney's office declined to file charges against the deputy.

Mee joined the sheriff's department in May 1989, according to his lawsuit.

Monte Carlo replaces Lance Burton with Jabbawockeez

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The Monte Carlo casino-resort has replaced longtime Las Vegas Strip headline magician Lance Burton with a hip-hop dance crew that shot to fame through a reality television competition, hotel officials announced Tuesday.

Burton ended a 14-year run at the Monte Carlo on Saturday. He and the Monte Carlo announced their split in April, less than a year after he signed a six-year contract extension.

Jabbawockeez, the first-season winner of MTV's "America's Best Dance Crew" competition that is known for performing in white masks and gloves, will replace Burton in October.

The seven-member group, whose name is an homage to a similarly named Lewis Carroll poem in "Through the Looking Glass," found success as a standalone act earlier this year during a run at the MGM Grand resort. The group has also made numerous other television appearances.

AP
In this Aug. 2, 2008 file photo, dance group Jabbawockeez arrive on the red carpet at the MTV Asia Awards 2008 in Genting Highlands, outside Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Kevin Brewer, a 33-year-old crew member lauded by judges and fans on the MTV show for his crotch-grabbing solo during a routine to Michael Jackson's "P.Y.T.," said the crew started to believe headlining in Las Vegas was a possibility during its first Las Vegas Strip performances.

"After our first run in May and the response that we got, I think that kind of put a little weight underneath our wings," Brewer said Tuesday.

Hotel officials also cited the Jabbawockeez' sold-out MGM Grand run in its announcement, saying the group was "back by popular demand."

The 90-minute show titled "Mus.i.c" (pronounced "muse I see") starts Oct. 7, with tickets on sale for shows five nights per week through December.

Terms of the deal between the dancers and Monte Carlo owner MGM Resorts International weren't immediately made public.

Anton Nikodemus, chief operating officer of the Monte Carlo, said they're planning to keep the Jabbawockeez well beyond December.

"We are planning an extended run for the guys at Monte Carlo. We anticipate they will be with us for a minimum of six months," Nikodemus said. "They have cultivated a worldwide following, and we look forward to introducing Monte Carlo to a new audience."

Brewer said the crew was mentally prepared to stay five or six months, but hopeful it will last longer.

"I'm hoping that it's like that whole Lance Burton (run), like 14 years," he said.

Burton, 50, has not announced his next plans beyond a vacation. He had performed at the Monte Carlo since the day it opened in 1996. Neither he, nor hotel officials, have given a specific reason for parting ways, but Burton in an April interview compared the split to a divorce for "irreconcilable differences."

"That's kind of what we have here. I think we've just grown apart, we have different philosophies, and we're going in different directions," he told the AP, declining to elaborate.

Burton began performing in Las Vegas 28 years ago with an eight-week run at "Les Folies Bergere," the topless revue at the Tropicana hotel-casino that closed last year after 49 years. Burton's initial performances turned into a nine-year run at that hotel.

Before that, Burton was the youngest magician to win the Gold Award for Excellence from the International Brotherhood of Magicians, which is the world's largest organization for magicians.

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Machete
Friday 4:05 7:05 9:40
Saturday & Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:40
Monday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Tues through Thurs 4:05 7:05
Danny Trejo, Robert DeNiro
Action • Rated R
Synopsis
Robert Rodriguez makes good on expanding his Grindhouse fake trailer Machete into a feature film with this Overnight Productions picture. Danny Trejo will once again star as the knife-wielding vigilante who nearly dies in an assassination conspiracy, only to return later on and seek vengeance against those who wronged him. Robert De Niro, Lindsay Lohan, Jessica Alba, Steven Seagal, Don Johnson, and Jeff Fahey fill out the supporting cast.

Going The Distance
Friday 4:25 7:25 9:55
Saturday & Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Monday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Tues through Thurs 4:25 7:25
Drew Barrymore, Justin Long
Comedy • Rated R
Synopsis
Drew Barrymore and Justin Long star as a couple who find their long-distance relationship wearing thin in this romantic comedy from director Nanette Burnstein. Geoff LaTulippe provides the screenplay for the New Line production.

★ ★ ★

The Last Exorcism
Friday 4:00 7:00 9:50
Saturday & Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50
Monday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Tues through Thurs 4:00 7:00
Patrick Fabian, Ashley Bell
Horror • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
Disillusioned charlatan Reverend Cotton Marcus (Patrick Fabian) comes face to face with pure evil after recruiting a documentary film crew to capture the final exorcism of his career. For years Reverend Marcus has taken advantage of the faithful and desperate. Now it's time for him to finally come clean. Just as Reverend Marcus prepares to shoot the film that will set the record straight, he receives an urgent letter from a desperate farmer. The devil has taken possession of his beloved daughter Nell (Ashley Bell, and Reverend Marcus is their last hope for salvation.

Piranha
Friday 4:30 7:30 10:00
Saturday & Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Monday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Tues through Thurs 4:30 7:30
Elisabeth Shue, Adam Scott
Horror • Rated R

Vampires Suck
Friday 4:15 7:15 9:45
Saturday & Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:45
Monday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Tues through Thurs 4:15 7:15
Matt Lanter, Chris Riggi
Comedy • Rated PG 13

The Expendables
Friday 4:10 7:20 9:30
Saturday & Sunday 1:20 4:10 7:20 9:30
Monday 1:20 4:10 7:20
Tues through Thurs 4:10 7:20
Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham
War • Rated R

The Other Guys
Friday 4:20 7:10 9:35
Saturday & Sunday 1:10 4:20 7:10 9:35
Monday 1:10 4:20 7:10
Tues through Thurs 4:20 7:10
Mark Wahlberg, Will Farrell
Comedy • Rated PG 13

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John Lennon's killer is again denied parole in NY

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)—John Lennon's killer was again denied parole in New York, nearly 30 years after gunning down the ex-Beatle outside the musician's New York City apartment building.

A parole board decided not to release Mark David Chapman after interviewing him Tuesday by teleconference at Attica Correctional Facility in upstate New York.

It was Chapman's sixth appearance before the board since becoming eligible for parole in 2000. He will be eligible again in 2012.

Chapman, 55, had been scheduled to appear last month, but the hearing was postponed by parole officials, who said at the time they were awaiting additional information. They did not elaborate.

After Tuesday's decision, the board wrote to Chapman that it remains concerned about "the disregard you displayed for the norms of our society and the sanctity of human life when, after careful planning, you travelled to New York for the sole purpose of killing John Lennon."

Chapman

The panel said "release remains inappropriate at this time and incompatible with the welfare of the community."

Among those who have opposed his release is Lennon's now 77-year-old widow, Yoko Ono, who said last month that she believed Chapman is a potential threat to her family and perhaps himself.

A call seeking comment from a spokesman for Ono was not immediately returned.

The former maintenance man from Hawaii was sentenced to 20 years to life in prison after firing five shots outside Lennon's Manhattan building on Dec. 8, 1980, hitting Lennon four times in front of his wife and others. He pleaded guilty to second-degree murder.

At his last parole hearing, in 2008, Chapman told the panel he was ashamed and sorry for what he had done and had since developed a deeper understanding of the value of a human life.

He said he had been seeking notoriety and fame to counter feelings of failure.

Italian film documents trauma of Iraq war veterans

VENICE, Italy (AP)—A new documentary being shown out of competition at the Venice Film Festival explores the trauma of three U.S. war veterans who served in Iraq and how the military handled their cases.

"Ward 54," so named for the psychiatric wing of the U.S. military's Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, also deals with the rise in military suicides following Iraq duty.

The film opens with the case of Army Sgt. Kristofer Goldsmith, whose job was to photograph Iraqi war victims to identify them. Goldsmith recounts how serving his country had always been his life's dream, but it turned into a nightmare when told he would be deployed again to Iraq.

"For over a year I knew something inside me wasn't right. I was drinking close to a gallon of vodka every weekend and starting fights," Goldsmith recalled Tuesday in Venice, where "Ward 54" had been screened the previous night. When told he had to go back to Iraq for duty, Goldsmith recalled: "I said I can't go back to Iraq. I wasn't afraid of Iraq, but knew I couldn't return."

He said his colonel gave him three choices: "'One, you can suck it up and go back. Two, you can go AWOL and live your life as a felon and three, you can kill yourself.'"

He attempted suicide on Memorial Day 2007.

"I was absolutely disgusted with the treatment from the military when I was trying to get help," he said from Venice's Excelsior Hotel, where he was doing media interviews alongside Italian director Monica Maggioni.

Last month, a congressionally-ordered report found historically high rates of suicides in the U.S. military, saying more than 1,100 members of the armed forces had killed themselves from 2005 to 2009 and that suicides are rising again this year.

The sharpest increases were in the Army and Marine Corps, the services most stretched by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Angelina Jolie meets flood victims in Pakistan

JALOZAI, Pakistan (AP)—American movie star Angelina Jolie met flood victims in northwestern Pakistan and appealed to the international community to provide aid needed to help the country recover from its worst natural disaster.

The flow of aid money has stalled in recent days, and officials expressed hope the two-day visit by Jolie—who serves as a "goodwill ambassador" for the U.N.'s refugee agency—will convince foreign countries and individuals to open their wallets.

The 35-year-old actress said Tuesday she met with many people whose lives have been devastated by the floods, including mothers who lost their children and an elderly Pakistani couple who feared they would never be able to rebuild the home they lost.

"I am very moved by them and I hope that I am able to, today and tomorrow, be able to do something to help bring attention to the situation for all of the people in need in Pakistan," Jolie told reporters after visiting a refugee camp in the Jalozai area.

She toured the area wearing a long black robe and a black headscarf adorned with a thin red stripe—the kind of conservative clothing worn by many Muslim women in Pakistan.

AP

Hollywood actress and the goodwill ambassador of UNHCR, Angelina Jolie visits a camp setup for people displaced by heavy floods, in Mohib Banda near Peshawar, Pakistan on Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2010.

The floods began in the northwest at the end of July after extremely heavy monsoon rains and slowly surged south along the Indus River, swallowing up hundreds of villages and towns and killing more than 1,700 people. Another 17 million have been affected by the floods, and many will need emergency assistance to survive.

The United Nations issued an appeal for $460 million in emergency funds on Aug. 11, but only $294 million, or 64 percent, has been received so far, and donations have more or less dried up in recent days.

Ajay Chhibber, a U.N. assistant secretary general, said he hopes Jolie's visit will have "a very big impact" on the inflow of aid money and will keep people focused on the crisis.

"We need more ... well-known figures who can keep the spotlight and focus because people tend to forget internationally," said Chhibber, who is also the U.N. development agency's regional director for Asia. He spoke to reporters during a visit to Islamabad.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Woodward book to be called 'Obama's Wars'

NEW YORK (AP) — Less than three weeks before publication, Bob Woodward's new book finally has a cover design and a title: "Obama's Wars." And the focus will not be on the economy — the top issue of the fall elections — but on foreign policy. Woodward's latest investigative work will run 441 pages (Amazon.com had been listing the count at 464 pages) and show Obama "making the critical decisions on the Afghanistan War, the secret war in Pakistan and the worldwide fight against terrorism," Simon & Schuster announced Tuesday. Woodward finished three weeks ago, according to an official with knowledge of the book. The official, who said the book includes little on the Iraq conflict, was not authorized to discuss "Obama's Wars" and asked not to be identified.

America Ferrera to host 'Independent Lens' on PBS

NEW YORK (AP) — The PBS series "Independent Lens" says actress America Ferrera will host its ninth season of documentary films. Ferrera follows past "Independent Lens" presenters including Susan Sarandon, Terrence Howard and Edie Falco. PBS says Ferrera will make her debut when the award-winning anthology series begins its new season of 27 documentaries on Oct. 19. Ferrera won an Emmy, a Golden Globe and a Screen Actors Guild Award for her portrayal of Betty Suarez on ABC's "Ugly Betty," which wrapped last year after four seasons. The 26-year-old announced her engagement to longtime boyfriend, Ryan Piers Williams, in June.

Winfrey, McCartney among Kennedy Center honorees

WASHINGTON (AP) — TV host and actress Oprah Winfrey has been chosen as a Kennedy Center honoree just before the start of the 25th and final season of "The Oprah Winfrey Show" on U.S. television. Winfrey is among five honorees revealed to the public Tuesday morning. The others are former Beatles member Paul McCartney, dancer-choreographer Bill T. Jones, country music singer-songwriter Merle Haggard and composer and lyricist Jerry Herman. The Kennedy Center Honors recognize performing artists for their contributions to American culture. Laureates are selected by the Kennedy Center's Board of Trustees. In addition to her award-winning TV show, Winfrey earned Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations for her work in the movie adaptation of Alice Walker's novel "The Color Purple."

Man gets 4 years for Dunst handbag heist

NEW YORK (AP) — A man convicted of stealing Kirsten Dunst's designer purse from a New York City hotel suite has been sentenced to four years in prison. James Jimenez was convicted of burglary in June. He was sentenced Tuesday. A jury had found him guilty of stealing Dunst's $2,000 designer purse. Actor Simon Pegg's cell phone and other items also were taken from the chic hotel in 2007. The actors were staying at the hotel while filming "How to Lose Friends & Alienate People." Prosecutors had argued that Jimenez deserved seven years behind bars. He denied any wrongdoing.

London band The xx wins UK Mercury Prize

LONDON (AP)—Electronic trio The xx has won Britain's Barclaycard Mercury Prize for their debut album, called "xx." The south London band won the 20,000 pound ($30,000) prize over 11 other shortlisted acts at a ceremony in London Tuesday. The group beat its more well-known competitors, which included bookies' favorite Paul Weller, singer Corinne Bailey Rae and past winner Dizzee Rascal. Frontman Oliver Sim said he was stunned by the news: "I don't know what we were expecting but we weren't expecting this." The award has honored the best album of the year by a British or Irish band since 1992. Previous winners include the Arctic Monkeys and Scottish rockers Franz Ferdinand.

CNN christens its new talk show 'Parker Spitzer'

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN is unveiling the title and premiere date of its new prime-time talk show pairing former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer and conservative columnist Kathleen Parker. The name is, simply, "Parker Spitzer." CNN said Tuesday the show will premiere Oct. 4, airing weeknights at 8 p.m. Eastern time. The second-billed Spitzer will begin the show perhaps best known for having resigned as governor in disgrace two years ago following a prostitution scandal. Parker has been a Southern-based newspaper columnist for much of her life and won a Pulitzer Prize for commentary. "Parker Spitzer" will face tough competition on rival cable news networks: Bill O'Reilly on Fox News Channel and Keith Olbermann at MSNBC.

'Beetlejuice' actor Glenn Shadix dies in Alabama

Glenn Shadix, best remembered for his portrayal of a portly, pretentious designer in the metaphysical comedy "Beetlejuice," died Tuesday at his home in Birmingham. He was 58. Personal manager Juliet Green told The Associated Press that Shadix had returned to his home state after many years living in Los Angeles. A cause of death was not immediately known, but his sister, Susan Gagne, told The Birmingham News that he had been using a wheelchair for mobility and appeared to have fallen in his kitchen and struck his head. A memorial for William G. "Glenn Shadix" Scott will be held Saturday in Birmingham, his website said. Green said he's survived by his mother, sister and brother-in-law.

Singles live alone in safety with aid of simple deception

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: "Cautious Bachelorette" (July 16) asked you how she should respond to a workman who asks if she lives alone. Having worked 30 years in a maximum security prison, I can assure your readers that criminals gravitate toward jobs that provide access to people's homes as a way of scouting victims, so "Bachelorette's" concern is well-founded.

I advise single women to keep a few articles of men's clothing, such as a jacket, work boots and other items, visible in their homes. They can be purchased inexpensively at a yard sale or local thrift shop. When a stranger is invited into her home, she can simply pick up one of the articles stating, "Here, let me get John's coat out of your way." It does provide a very real deterrent to criminals or others looking for a single woman to victimize.

RONALD A., WASHINGTON
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (RETIRED)

DEAR RONALD: My readers agreed that setting the stage (with an invisible housemate) is an effective way to give the impression to outsiders that you do not live alone. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Take a suggestion from a senior citizen who has lived alone for many years—and it applies not only to females, but also to males of any age. Singles should purchase articles of the opposite sex and display them prominently in their homes so they can be seen by any stranger who comes into their homes. That way, the question, "Do you live alone?" doesn't come up.

SAFE SENIOR CITIZEN IN THE SOUTH

DEAR ABBY: I would recommend "Cautious Bachelorette" purchase a male beta fish. They take very little time and energy to care for. Name him Fred, or some other masculine name. That way, when she's asked if she lives alone, she can honestly say, "No. Fred lives with me." If people inquire deeper, she can say that they have a close one-on-one relationship, and he is very dependable. She could even add that he is a professional swimmer without fibbing. That way she will be able to have a truthful reply for any who ask.

FRED'S HOUSEMATE

DEAR ABBY: I live alone and I keep a men's magazine on my coffee table, a second set of towels in my bathroom and even went to the thrift store and bought a bathrobe that hangs on a hook behind the bathroom door. Also, my table is always set for two, and I always speak in terms of "we" whenever I have a stranger in my home.

SINGLE BUT CAUTIOUS IN PLANO, TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: Here's how I give the illusion of not living alone. I have two deck chairs set out and often leave things outside like a shovel, my brother's flip-flops, or I toss a baseball cap onto the porch swing.

LONGTIME READER IN EL CERRITO, CALIF.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I were married 24 years, but the last several years were extremely difficult. We have separated, but have not filed the paperwork yet. I would like to begin moving forward with my life. It has been six months and there will be no reconciliation.

Recently, someone who knows my circumstances asked me out on a date. Would it be inappropriate for me to go, or to date in general?

DATING DILEMMA IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR DATING DILEMMA: If you are truly ready to move forward with your life, file the paperwork first. Even divorces that start amicably can become messy to some degree. Filing the paperwork first will make it less so.

■ ■ ■

TO MY MUSLIM READERS: It's time for the breaking of the Ramadan fast. Happy Eid al-Fitr, everyone. May God make yours a blessed feast.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby – Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

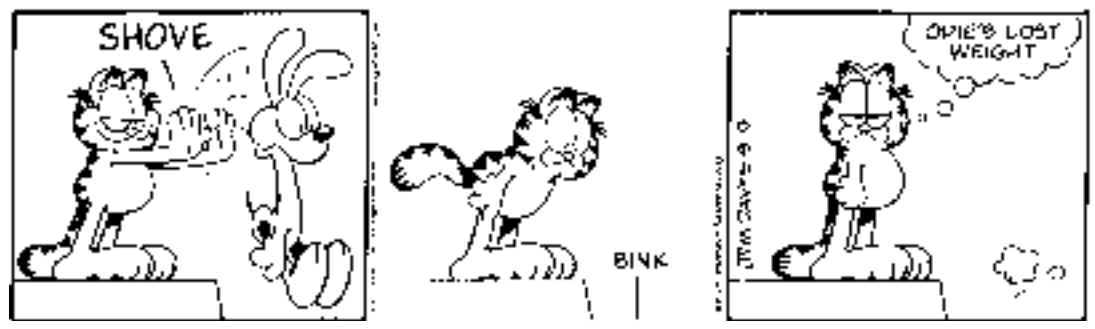
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

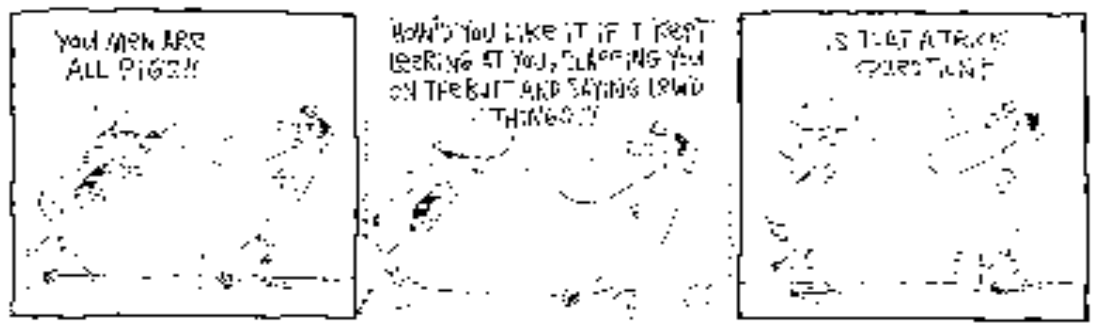


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


YOU MEN ARE ALL PIGS!!
HOW'D YOU LIKE IT IF I KEPT LOOKING AT YOU, SLAPPING YOU ON THE BUTT AND SAYING LOUD THINGS?!
IS THAT A RHETORICAL QUESTION?

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

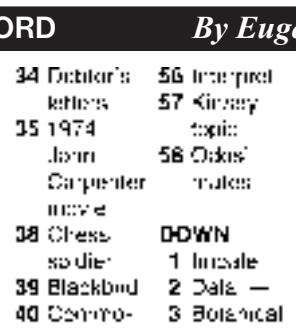
ACROSS

1 Bad hair piece
5 Cribbage score
8 Newspaper page
12 Cad
13 The whole enchilada
14 Hemingway or Haydn
15 In the thick of
16 Carnival city
17 ___ ago bragh
18 Pacific discoverer
20 Thresher
22 Spirit: suffix
23 Longing
24 Longest abbr. on many calendars
27 Nero and Napoleon
32 Eggs
33 Greek H
34 Dobbin's letters
35 1974 John Carpenter movie
38 Chess soldier
39 Blackbird
40 Commotion
42 Hardly colorful
45 Lizards' place?
49 Blunder
50 Common soccer score
52 Granny
53 Competitor
54 Geology period
55 Unforgettable singer
56 Interpret
57 Kinsey topic
58 Odds' rivals

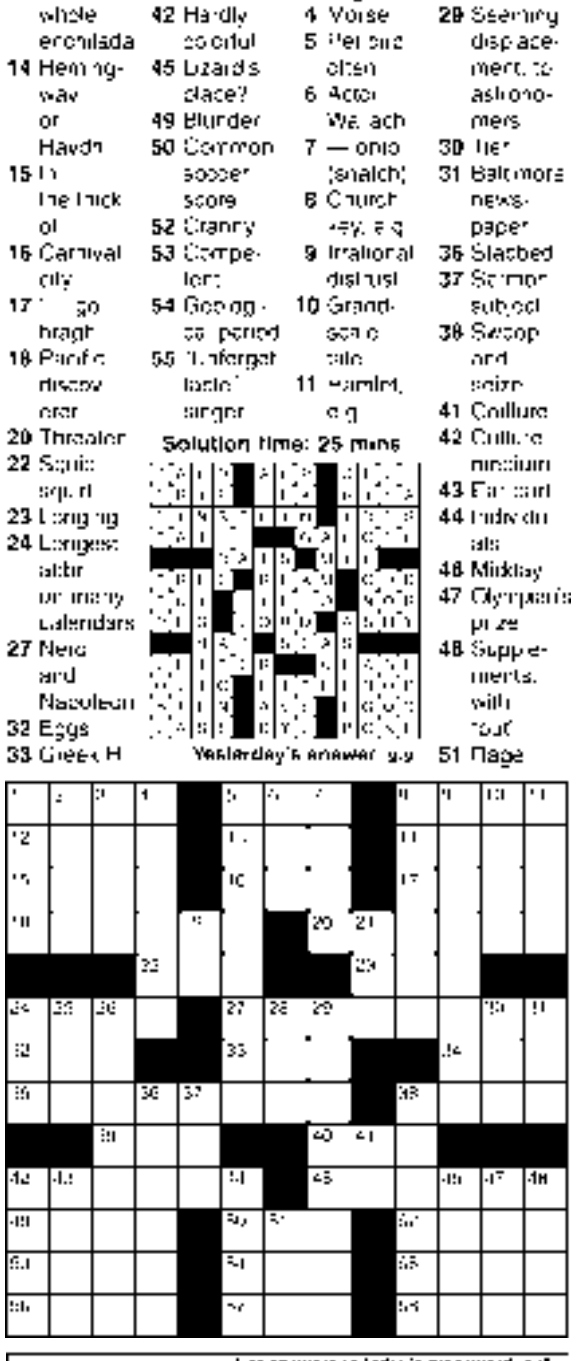
DOWN

1 Inside
2 Dalai —
3 Botanical angle
4 Worse
5 Personal often
6 Actor Wallach
7 — Minor (snatch)
8 Church key, e.g.
9 Irrational distrust
10 Grandson's kin
11 Hamlet, e.g.
19 Beast mating
21 CBS logo
24 Turf
25 A Gabor sister
26 Geometric curve
28 Urban transit letters
29 Seemly displacement to astronomers
30 Tier
31 Baltimore newspaper
35 Slashed
37 Summer subject
38 Swoop and seize
41 Culture
42 Culture medium
43 Fan club
44 Individuals
48 Midday
47 Olympian's prize
48 Supplements, with "out"
51 Rage

Solution time: 25 mins



Yesterday's Answer: g-g



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5959! $95 per minute (must be touch-tone phone). ©The Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michelle Williams, 30; Michael Buble, 35; Eric Stonestreet, 39; Hugh Grant, 50

Happy Birthday: Don't hold back when it is so important to get your thoughts and feelings out in the open. It's all about balance. Be ready to make choices or you will fall behind, losing sight of your goals. There is a lot you can do to secure your future but procrastination must not be allowed. Your numbers are 2, 7, 16, 21, 26, 39, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): An unexpected change will have you scrambling to get ready for what's to come. You must prepare emotionally to deal with someone who will not agree with how you should proceed. Put both work and personal matters into perspective. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Your game plan should include meeting people, developing friendships and activating your own ideas. A love interest will inspire you to invent your own style. A short trip will lead to valuable information. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Taking action will show your dedication. However, do not let it be costly or you will lose as much as you gain. Holding back may be easier but it won't solve problems or help you release stress. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Home, family, friends and relatives will all play an important role in what you do with the choices you've been given. Much can be accomplished if you are willing to make changes. Don't fear the unknown. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You'll be questioning your next move as well as what everyone around you is going to do next. Try not to be so hard on yourself or others. Security is important but can also come at a cost. Believe in your own ability and invest in who you are and what you can do. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't take on too much or you may fall short. Spend more time researching and interacting with people who can contribute to what you are trying to accomplish. Avoid impulsive purchases or paying too much. Don't let your insecurities limit you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): If you let someone interfere, push or make decisions for you it will cause limitations, depression and reduced self-esteem. Use your imagination and you will come up with a means to an end that will satisfy you. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A little creative input and you will come up with a new look, plan or idea that will help you adjust to a new way of living. Practical application of the things you already do well will help you move to greater prosperity. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Get serious or you will end up answering to someone critical about what you have and haven't accomplished. An unexpected change at home will leave you scrambling. Concentrate on improving your long-term income. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't let the uncertainty surrounding you get you down. You've always been able to turn a lemon into lemonade, so start mixing and matching for a positive result. An older partner will play a role in your progress. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): There are changes that must be made but, once you get started, you will progress quickly. An energetic, lively, hands-on approach will encourage others to support you. Serious-minded ventures will attract people with the potential to help you achieve. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't be fooled by someone's pushy efforts to get you to lean in a certain direction. If you don't back up your own morals, principles and ethics, it will cost you your job or your reputation. Control the situation. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You question, balance, think and strategize with practicality in mind. You research and will adapt if necessary. You are productive and goal-oriented.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

5	9		4	8		2		
4				9				
					3			7
9						8		
6	4						7	5
		1						4
2			1					
				7				8
		3		4	9		5	6

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

2	4	6	5	9	3	7	1	9
8	5	1	2	7	9	3	4	6
9	7	3	6	1	4	8	2	5
5	2	8	3	9	6	1	7	4
6	1	9	8	4	7	5	3	2
7	3	4	1	5	2	9	6	8
4	6	5	9	3	1	2	8	7
3	9	7	4	2	5	6	3	1
1	8	2	7	6	8	4	5	3

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OLELET

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Around The World In Eighty Days

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Saipan Tribune

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: Wednesday, September 01, 2010 **Closing Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2010**

JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-005-3	Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Supervisor (Saipan) ("OS")	1	$55,000.00 - $65,000.00	Two-year	Wastewater Div., Saipan

Opening Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2010 **Closing Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2010**

JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-039	Trades Technician (Mechanic)	10	$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Generation, Saipan
10-040	Trades Technician (Machinist)	1	$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Generation, Saipan
10-041	Trades Technician (Welder)	1	$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Generation, Saipan
10-042	Trades Technician (Electrician)	1	$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Generation, Saipan
10-043	Trades Technician (Electrician)	1	$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Plant, Rota
10-044	Accounting Assistant (Cashier)	1	$12,263.00	Two-year	Accounting, Rota
10-045	Administrative Support Technician	1	$13,625.00	Two-year	Administration, Rota

*For more information about the position (s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary; please contact or stop by the human resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #06-2010

Opening date: August 26, 2010 Closing date: September 9, 2010

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancies:

Positions:
(1) Accountant-II (Saipan)
(1) Ports Police Trainee (Saipan)
(1) Tinian Ports Manager
(1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Rota)
(1) Staff Engineer (Saipan)
(1) ARFF Trainee (Saipan)
(1) General Maintenance-I (Port of Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more that six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 26 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Thursday, September 9, 2010.***

Accountant-II: Any combination equivalent to graduation from high school (or G.E.D.) an AA accounting degree or related field from an accredited US college or university and no less than two (2) years of progressively responsible experience in accounting. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.
Staff Engineer: Possess minimum of four (4) year degree in civil engineering from an accredited U.S. university with no less than seven (7) years of progressive responsible experience in a professional engineering level of which three (3) years pertain to supervisory experience. Must be a registered Professional Engineer in the CNMI or any jurisdiction in the U.S.A. or ability to obtain registration in three (3) years from date of hire. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.
Ports Police Trainee: Graduation from high school (or G.E.D.). Strong desire to establish a career at the Commonwealth Ports Authority as a Ports Police officer and shall not be less than eighteen (18) year of age and not more than thirty-five (35) year of age upon hire pursuant to Age Discrimination in Employment Amendments of 1996. Experience is not necessary. Must be in accordance with recognized medical and physical fitness requirements. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.
ARFF Trainee: Graduation from high school or equivalent (G.E.D.), strong desire to establish a career as a fire fighter and shall be no less than eighteen (18) years of age and no more than thirty-five (35) years of age in accordance with the Age Discrimination in Employment Amendments of 1996. Experience is not necessary. Employee will be placed in one (1) year probationary status and must complete and pass all academic and hands-on training minimum requirements. National Fire Protection Association Standards #1003 regarding medical and health fitness requirements applies. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.
Tinian Ports Manager: Any combination equivalent to graduation from high school (or G.E.D.) and a four (4) year degree from an accredited US college or university with no less than seven (7) years of progressively responsible experience in a US international airport and seaport operations of which four (4) years pertain to supervisory experience. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.
General Maintenance-I (Port of Saipan): Any combination equivalent to graduation from high school (or G.E.D.) and a two (2) year degree or equivalent in certification in a related field from an accredited US college or trade school.
Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Rota): Graduation from high school (or G.E.D.). No record of felony or criminal conviction.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing, or may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. For more information, please contact Ms. Addy C. Manahane by email at acmanahane@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON-GUERRERO
Executive Director

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
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• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Find today's solution in this section

Scola leads Argentina past Brazil at Worlds

ISTANBUL (AP)—Luis Scola scored 37 points, carrying Argentina to a thrilling 93-89 victory over Brazil on Tuesday and into the quarterfinals of the world championship.

Overcoming a regional rival guided by the coach who led them to their greatest glory, Argentina advanced to play Lithuania on Thursday. Scola, the Houston Rockets forward who came in as the tournament's leader with 29 points per game, scored 10 of Argentina's final 12 over the last 3-plus minutes.

"I know that my team is going to look for me at the end of the game," Scola said. "It's nothing to really think about, you just have to play your game."

Carlos Delfino of the Milwaukee Bucks added 20 points and Hernan Jasen scored eight of his 15 in the fourth quarter for Argentina, which avoided what would have been an unusually early exit from an international tournament.

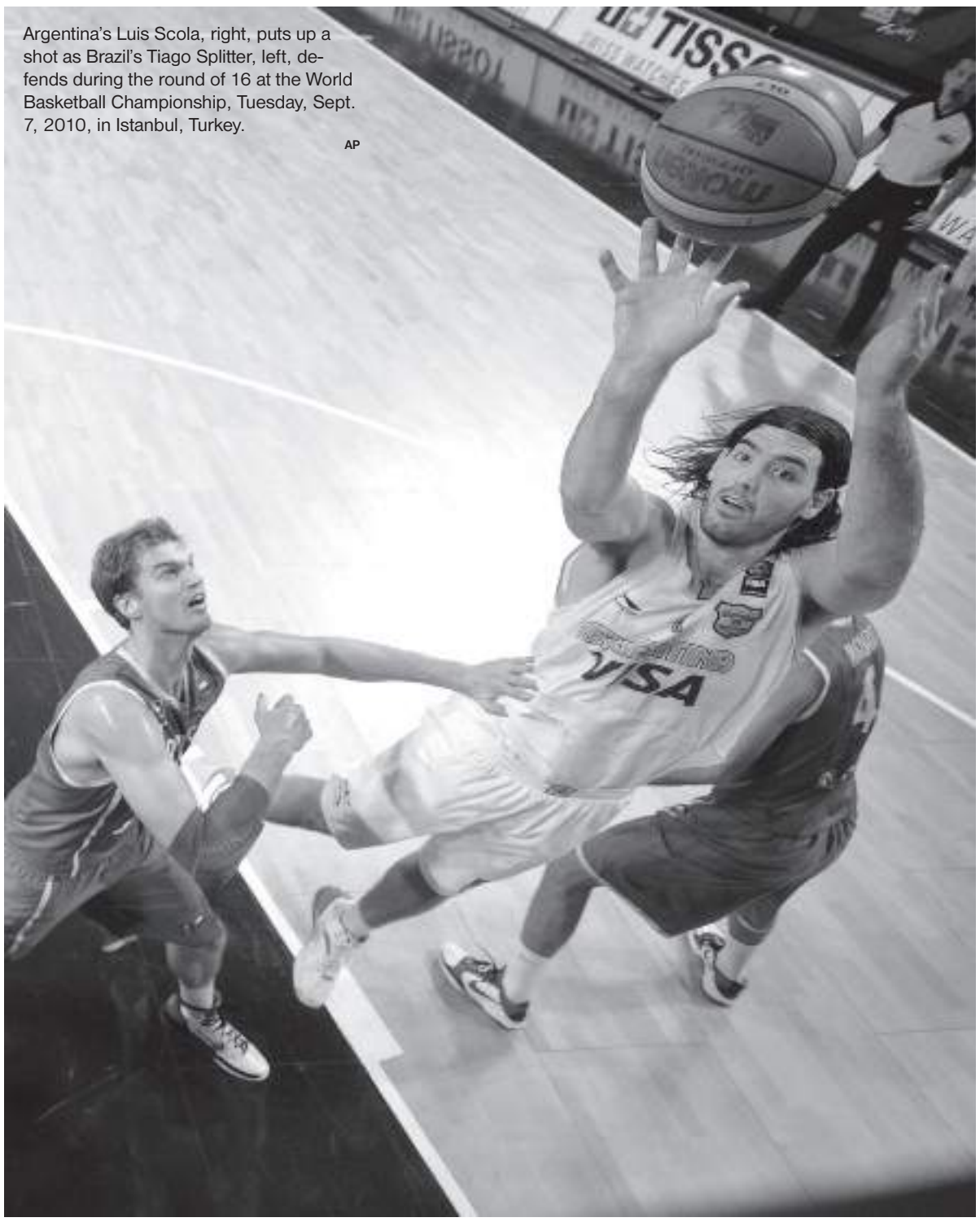
Marcelo Huertas scored 32 points and Leandro Barbosa had 20 for Brazil, which lost its third close game of the tournament.

The Brazilians are coached by Ruben Magnano, an Argentina native who led his homeland to gold in the 2004 Olympics and silver in the 2002 worlds. His new team lost 70-68 to the United States and had a three-point loss to Slovenia in pool play.

"It was kind of a bad chance for us to meet a very good Argentine team at this time of the championship," Magnano said.

Playing without San Antonio star Manu Ginobili and Philadelphia's Andres Nocioni, the Argentines were in danger Tuesday of elimination before the semifinals for the first time since missing the 2000 Olympics. But Scola wouldn't let them.

"He's so thirsty, playing basketball, never tired of running and fighting for the ball, that we've got to follow him," center Fabricio Oberto said.



Argentina's Luis Scola, right, puts up a shot as Brazil's Tiago Splitter, left, defends during the round of 16 at the World Basketball Championship, Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2010, in Istanbul, Turkey.

AP

Lithuania 78, China 67

At Istanbul, Linas Kleiza scored 30 points Tuesday to help send Lithuania into the quarterfinals of the basketball world championship with a 78-67 win over China.

Lithuania won its sixth straight game in the tournament after going undefeated in group play, but had to recover from a poor start this time.

China, which advanced despite winning just one group game, jumped out to a 16-5 lead in the first four minutes.

That "kind of knocked us back on our heels a little bit," Lithuania guard Martynas Pocius said, but his team responded with a 16-2 run in the second quarter to take a 36-31 lead.

Lithuania coach Kestutis Kemzura said the turnaround came after he told the team during a timeout to focus on scoring inside rather than from long range.

"Don't try to make it a 3-point contest, keep attacking the paint. Basically that's what I said in not such a nice way as I'm saying now," Kemzura said.

Lithuania never trailed in the second half, using a 16-3 run to take a 64-51 lead going into the fourth quarter.

China came within 67-62 with 5:10 left, but Kleiza scored 10 unanswered points to put the game away.

"He was a big, big factor as always but especially today," Kemzura said of Kleiza, who also had nine rebounds.

Liu Wei scored 21 points for China, while Yi Jianlian of the Washington Wizards had 11. Jianlian, the tournament's leading rebounder, added 12 rebounds, but Lithuania finished with a 50-30 advantage on the boards.

"If you make a mistake and get out of position, they can make a very good basketball read and punish you," China coach Bob Donewald. "We didn't have the legs under us to make shots down the stretch," Donewald said.

US Ryder Cup picks: Woods, Johnson, Cink, Fowler

NEW YORK (AP)—Tiger Woods was a no-brainer as a captain's pick for the Ryder Cup.

Rickie Fowler required a little more than deep thought.

"It just came down to feelings," captain Corey Pavin said. "I had a gut feeling about Rickie."

Fowler, the 21-year-old mop top who only turned pro 11 months ago, made history Tuesday as the first PGA Tour rookie on the American team and the first captain's pick to have never won on tour.

He was the only big mystery when Pavin announced his four picks at the New York Stock Exchange. Pavin also chose a pair of major champions, Stewart Cink and Zach Johnson, both of whom have played the Ryder Cup on the road.

The matches will be held Oct. 1-3 at Celtic Manor in Wales.

Fowler will be the youngest American to play in the Ryder Cup since Woods in 1997, but only the second-youngest player at Celtic Manor. Rory McIlroy, the 21-year-old from Northern Ireland, earned his way onto the European team.

"I can bring a little bit of color to the team, I can bring some youth to the team and hopefully, get the guys pumped up a little bit," Fowler said. "But as I said, we're all going over there to win, so we're all going to be getting each other pumped and focusing on our main goal, bringing home the cup."

The Americans won two years ago in Kentucky, and will try to win for the first time overseas since 1993 at The Belfry.

This will be the sixth Ryder Cup team for Woods, but the first in which he needed to be picked. Woods had finished first in the standings every time, including in 2008 when he spent the second half of the year recovering from knee surgery.

"It's great to be a part of this team," Woods said. "I'm honored to be selected ... and looking forward to going back and having a great time with the team and hopefully, bring the Cup back."

The eight Americans who qualified after the PGA Championship were Phil Mickelson, Hunter Mahan, Steve Stricker, Jim Furyk, Matt Kuchar, Bubba Watson, Dustin Johnson and Jeff Overton.

European captain Colin Montgomerie said Pavin used his four picks "to good effect."

"Like my European team, the American side has an excellent blend of youthful talent alongside some seasoned Ryder Cup campaigners, and I am delighted to see Tiger Woods amongst Corey's selections," he said. "The Ryder Cup is a better event with him in it."

Cink made his fifth consecutive team—his third as a captain's pick—while Johnson is playing for the second time.

The final selection—and Pavin's most difficult—went to Fowler, the first PGA Tour rookie to make the U.S. team. While the former Oklahoma State star has three runner-up finishes a pro, he still hasn't won, and has not had a top 10 for three months.

Fowler played in the Walker Cup twice and went 7-1, including a 4-0 record at Merion last year. Pavin was not the least bit concerned that Fowler will be making his debut before fans who will be pulling against him.

"I think he can handle it, and that's why I picked him," Pavin said. "I think he's a very mature young man. He's had experience in international play. He's got a very steady head on his shoulders."

No one else stood out over the last three weeks. In the final tournament before Pavin's picks, none of the 14 players on the captain's short list finished among the top 10.

According to people with knowledge of the decision, the final selection came down to Fowler and big-hitting J.B. Holmes, who tied for 11th at the TPC Boston. Holmes went 2-0-1 two years ago playing before a home crowd at Valhalla.

Among those left off were Anthony Kim, who missed three months this summer with thumb surgery and was bumped out of the top eight in the final qualifying tournament; former U.S. Open champion Lucas Glover and Charley Hoffman, who closed with a 62 on Monday to win the Deutsche Bank Championship.

Hoffman was not on Pavin's short list at the start of last week, but the captain called him Monday night to say he had been considered.

Fowler's selection gives the Americans five Ryder Cup rookies—Watson, Overton, Fowler, Kuchar and Dustin Johnson—and two players without a single PGA Tour victory. Overton is winless in his five years on tour.

Woods, who retained the No. 1 world ranking for the 274th consecutive week Monday at the Deutsche Bank Championship, became an obvious selection once he said at the PGA Championship that he wanted to be part of the team. He has been accused of being indifferent toward the Ryder Cup, and his career record of 10-13-2 is the one flaw in an impeccable career inside the ropes.

He will be going to Wales on his own—his divorce was approved two weeks ago—and no longer cutting such an invincible figure.

Woods has failed to win since returning at the Masters, although he appears headed in the right direction. He posted three rounds in the 60s at the Deutsche Bank Championship for the first time all year.

"Whether I was a person who was picked or a person who earned their way on the squad, it doesn't change the overall goal," Woods said. "It's still the same. And that's to go over there and win."

Europe's team has six Ryder Cup rookies—Italian brothers Francesco and Edoardo Molinari, Peter Hanson, Rory McIlroy, Ross Fisher and PGA champion Martin Kaymer—along with Lee Westwood, Ian Poulter, Padraig Harrington, Luke Donald, Miguel Angel Jimenez and U.S. Open champion Graeme McDowell.

Zach Johnson won the Colonial in May, and the former Masters champion had been coming on strong in recent weeks. He finished one shot out of the playoff at the PGA Championship, and kept himself in the mix at the tour's playoff events. Cink, who won the British Open at Turnberry last year, has been making slow progress in recent months.

"What was important to me is who I thought could play well in that environment over in Wales," Pavin said. "That was my first criteria. Obviously, I like guys that are playing well, and that's important. I wanted to find guys that round off the team and make it a team of 12, not 12 individuals that are great players."

Polanco's big hit lifts Phillies into first place

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Placido Polanco hit a tie-breaking single in the eighth inning as the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Florida Marlins 8-7 on Tuesday to move into first place in the National League East.

The Phillies moved a half-game ahead of Atlanta, which lost 5-0 in Pittsburgh. The two-time defending NL champions hadn't been in first place since May 30. They are seeking their fourth straight division title.

Ryan Howard, Raul Ibanez and Shane Victorino hit solo homers for the Phillies, who were seven games behind the Braves on July 22.

After the Marlins rallied to tie it at 7 in the eighth, the Phillies answered with two outs in the bottom half. Victorino blooped a single to center off Jose Veras (2-2). He stole second and scored on Polanco's liner to right.

Mike Stanton homered for the third straight game for Florida.

Brewers 4, Cardinals 2

At Milwaukee, Trevor Hoffman added another milestone to his illustrious career, earning his 600th save by closing out Milwaukee's win.

Four people were ejected by plate umpire Bob Davidson, including a fan, on a night that ended with Hoffman being carried off the field by his teammates.

The 42-year-old reliever, baseball's career saves leader, lost his job as the Brewers' closer in May after a string of bad outings. But he's pitched better of late and has been getting ninth-inning work as the team tried to get him to No. 600.

The right-hander entered in the ninth and gave up a bloop single to Colby Rasmus. Pinch-hitter Randy Winn grounded into a double play. Hoffman got pinch-hitter Aaron Miles to ground out and raised his arms in triumph as teammates rushed to mob him near the mound.

Rockies 4, Reds 3

At Denver, Carlos Gonzalez hit a three-run homer and Jhoulys Chacin pitched six strong innings in Colorado's fifth consecutive win.

Gonzalez's homer in the first inning was his 32nd of the season and gave him 100 RBIs. He's in prime position to challenge for the NL Triple Crown, leading in average (.340), taking over the top spot in RBIs and vaulting into a third-place tie with Joey Votto and Mark Reynolds in homers.

Chacin (8-9) turned in his fourth straight outing in which he has surrendered two earned runs or less. The rookie right-hander allowed two runs and six hits, struck out five and walked one.

Huston Street worked the ninth for his 16th save.

Padres 2, Dodgers 1

At San Diego, Mat Latos bounced back from stomach flu to strike out 10 batters for the third time in four starts as the NL West-leading San Diego beat Los Angeles.

Latos held Los Angeles to four hits in seven innings. He set a big league record with his 15th straight start of five or more innings with two or fewer runs allowed. He had been tied with Greg Maddux (1993-94) and Mike Scott (1986) with 14.

Latos (14-5) also lowered his major league-leading ERA from 2.25 to 2.21. His 10 strikeouts matched his career high, and his 113 pitches were a career high. He walked none.

Giants 6, Diamondbacks 3

At Phoenix, Tim Lincecum struck out 11 batters and San Francisco hit three homers in a win over Arizona.

The Giants have won four straight and six of seven. They began the day one game behind the first-place Padres, who started a little later against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Aubrey Huff, Freddy Sanchez and Pat Burrell homered off Barry Enright (6-3).

Jeremy Affeldt induced a game-ending double play for a one-pitch save. It was his fourth of the season.

Chris Young homered for the Diamondbacks in a game that took just 2 hours, 16 minutes—Arizona's shortest of the year.

Pirates 5, Braves 0

At Pittsburgh, James McDonald pitched seven innings and Ronny Cedeno's triple keyed a five-run seventh as last-place Pittsburgh beat Atlanta for the second straight day.

The Braves have scored only 12 runs while losing five of six, a slump that followed a five-game winning streak. The Pirates had lost seven of nine and were on pace to lose 109 games before winning the first two games of the three-game series.

Tim Hudson (15-7) held the Pirates to three hits over six shutout innings, but he retired only one batter during the Pirates' breakthrough seventh. He was charged with four runs after pitching 28 consecutive innings against Pittsburgh without allowing an earned run.

Mets 4, Nationals 1

At Washington, Dillon Gee took a no-hitter into the sixth inning of his major league debut to lead New York past Washington.

The 24-year-old right-hander did a masterful job over seven innings. Willie Harris led off the sixth with a home run to right field, the only run the rookie would allow.

In a rare matchup of pitchers making big league debuts, Gee (1-0) outpitched Yunesky Maya, a 28-year-old Cuban defector. Maya (0-1) allowed a three-run first-inning homer to Ike Davis and a run in the second before retiring 11 of the last 12 batters he faced.

Astros 7, Cubs 3

At Chicago, Michael Bourn had three hits and three RBIs, and Brett Wallace hit his first career home run as Houston downed Chicago.

Bourn scored twice for the Astros, who won for the 12th time in 16 games.

AP

Philadelphia Phillies third baseman Placido Polanco fields a groundout by Florida Marlins' Mike Stanton in the sixth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2010, in Philadelphia.

Astros starter Nelson Figueroa (5-2) pitched five innings to earn the victory. He allowed three runs and six hits. Figueroa was backed by four scoreless innings from the Houston bullpen, which allowed only one hit.

Tyler Colvin drove in two runs on two hits for the Cubs.

Rays 14, Red Sox 5

At Boston, Evan Longoria hit one of five Tampa Bay home runs as David Price pitched the Rays past the Boston Red Sox to gain a one game lead in the American League East race.

The Rays snapped a three-game losing streak and cut New York's division lead to 1 1/2 games.

Price (17-6) gave up two runs before retiring a batter but allowed just two more hits, both by Victor Martinez. Boston's 2-0 lead held up until Ben Zobrist's two-run homer in the third off Daisuke Matsuzaka (9-5).

The Rays added two homers in the fifth, a two-run shot by Jason Bartlett and a three-run drive by Longoria, then got back-to-back homers in the sixth from Dan Johnson and B.J. Upton. Boston had not allowed a homer in its previous six games.

Carl Crawford went 4 for 4 in just five innings, including doubles in his first three at-bats. He has 12 hits in his last 19 at-bats.

Tampa Bay fell one homer short of its club record and set a season high for runs.

Orioles 6, Yankees 2

At New York, Jake Arrieta pitched efficiently into the seventh inning and Adam Jones had a two-run single in a three-run first as Baltimore denied nemesis CC Sabathia his 20th victory by beating New York.

Buoyed by five early runs, Arrieta earned his second win in 10 starts, helping Baltimore clinch its second straight series win against the top two teams in the AL East. The Orioles took two of three games from Tampa Bay last weekend. Winners of four in a row, they can complete their first three-game sweep in the Bronx in 24 years on Wednesday.

Last-place Baltimore is 21-13 under Buck Showalter, who managed the Yankees from 1992-95.

Sabathia (19-6), who had won six consecutive starts, came in 4-0 this season and 13-1 overall against the Orioles, but the big lefty was off his form from the start in the Yankees' third straight loss.

Twins 10, Royals 3

At Minneapolis, Jim Thome hit another towering homer, Delmon Young drove in four runs as Minnesota beat Kansas City to take its largest AL Central lead in 10 days.

Francisco Liriano (13-7) raised his second-half record to 7-0 in 10 starts, giving up seven hits and two runs in seven easy innings. J.J. Hardy had three RBIs for the Twins, who scored six times in the third against Brian Bannister (7-12) and moved 4 1/2 games ahead of Chicago in the division race.

The Twins have won five straight, 10 of their last 12 and 33 of 45.

Thome has four home runs in his last three games. He hit his 22nd of the season, estimated at 452 feet. It tied him with Hall of Famer Frank Robinson for eighth place on the career list with 586.

Tigers 9, White Sox 1

At Detroit, Justin Verlander allowed five hits over seven innings as Detroit ended Chicago's seven-game winning streak.

Three players—White Sox starter Freddy Garcia (back), Tigers first baseman Miguel Cabrera (shoulder) and White Sox designated hitter Manny Ramirez (hand)—left the game with injuries, while Chicago's Gordon Beckham (hand) was a late scratch from the lineup.

The White Sox were trying to win the first eight games of a road trip for the first time since 1951, but they fell behind in the first inning and never caught up.

Blue Jays 8, Rangers 5

At Toronto, Vernon Wells hit two home runs, and Adam Lind and John Buck also connected as Toronto beat Texas for its seventh consecutive victory over the Rangers.

Vladimir Guerrero had a two-run shot for Texas, which has lost five straight and nine of 12. Still, the Rangers began the day with a seven-game lead in the AL West over Oakland.

The Blue Jays lead the majors with 215 home runs this season. Toronto has gone deep in nine straight games, hitting 20 homers during that span.

The crowd of 10,518 was Toronto's second-smallest of the season.

Shaun Marcum (12-7) allowed three runs in seven innings to match his career high for wins. Kevin Gregg got two outs for his 31st save.

Mariners 7, Athletics 5

At Oakland, California, Doug Fister won for the second time in nearly four months and Adam Moore homered as Seattle broke out of a long scoring slump to beat Oakland.

Fister (5-11) scattered five hits over five innings and pitched out of several jams while leading the Mariners to their first win at the Coliseum since opening day. Seattle had lost six straight in Oakland since then.

Seattle scored five runs in the second off Dallas Braden (9-11).

Kurt Suzuki drove in two runs for the Athletics, who missed a chance to gain ground on first-place Texas. Oakland scored three times in the ninth, but David Aardsma got one out for his 29th save in 34 tries.

Indians 6, Angels 1

At Anaheim, California, Travis Hafner hit a go-ahead homer that was upheld by video replay and No. 9 batter Lou Marson broke the game open later in the sixth inning with his first career grand slam as Cleveland beat fast-fading Los Angeles.

The Angels lost for the 11th time in 15 games, keeping the three-time defending AL West champions 9 1/2 games behind division-leading Texas with 23 remaining.

Torii Hunter homered for the Angels, who have lost five straight home games for the first time since 2006 — the last time they missed the playoffs.

Justin Masterson (6-12) allowed a run and six hits over seven innings.

Trevor Bell (2-5) yielded two runs and four hits over 5 1-3 innings.

Power Plant leads in govt darts

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

CUC Power Plant padded its lead in the standings of the Bud Light Lime Inter-Government Dart League following a 14-1 demolition of NMC Proa on the road Friday night.

The one-sided victory improved the team's win-loss record to 52-23, followed by AG's Piligro (48-27) and DPW Trouble-shooters (45-30). Other notables last week, saw Ed Diaz score a High-In of 160 and Jayson John garner a High-Out of 120.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
PSS Team Na' Gupu players pose after a game in the Bud Light Lime Inter-Government Dart League.

CUC Power Plant 14, NMC PROA 1

Leo Cabrera, Patrick Taitano, and Joy Silva of visiting CUC won three of the four Singles 301 Double In/Double Out and their team went on to sweep both games of Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket, both Partners Burma New Machine Half It matches and both Partners 501 Double In/Double Out games. Then CUC's Silva, Cabrera, Ray Cepeda, and Taitano swept all four Singles Regular Cricket games and the their team took the final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out match.

DPS Enforcers 11, PSS Southside 4

Bernard Santos, Vince Mareham, and Tony Mareham of the home team Enforcers won three of the four Singles 301 Double In/Double Out games. The Enforcers swept both Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket matches before each team won a game of Burma New Machine Half It and a Partners 501 Double In/Double Out match. Enforcers' Santos amd Tony and Vince Mareham then won three of the four Singles Regular Cricket games and their team won the final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out match.

DYS Atdit 12, Public Health-Oh Yeah! 3

Julian Camacho, Benji Tagabuel, Nick Rabauliman, and Ray Villagomez of visiting Atdit swept all four Singles 301 Double In/Double Out games before their team swept both Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket matches. Then both teams won a game of Burma New Machine Half It and a Partners 501 Double In/Double Out match; Atdit sealed the automatic win after their 501 victory. Then Atdit's Camacho, Tagabuel, and Carl Hocog won three of the four Singles Regular Cricket matches and their team took the final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out match.

Youth baseball clinic set

WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Saipan Little League Baseball Association will be holding a series youth baseball clinics starting this Saturday, Sept. 11, at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

The clinic is open for players 13 to 18 years old and will be from 9am to 12pm on Sept. 11, Sept. 18, and Sept. 25. Participants are expected to learn the exact same drills the boys who attended the Baseball Confederation of Oceania Regional Training Center underwent in Guam last July.

All Saipan Little League Baseball Association managers and coaches are invited to attend the clinics, which will be conducted by Little League coaches Syl Ada and Mark Flores as well as SLLBA president and NMASA Hall of Famer Tony Rogolifoi.

Depending on the turnout, more Saturday clinics may be made available to satisfy the public interest. Players are expected to show up in full baseball attire with all of their equipment.

Pacific Games meeting

In related news, a mandatory meeting for the CNMI National Baseball Team will be held today, Sept. 9, at 6pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room. The 2011 Pacific Games will be discussed at this meeting. All players and team representatives are urged to attend. For more information, contact Tony Rogolifoi at 288-3515.

MDX

From Page 28

fending champions had too many options on offense, making MAFEA clueless on defense. After three quarters, MDX was still ahead by double-digits, 64-53.

In the fourth quarter, Konflikt made one final push for a comeback when it cut the lead to seven, 66-73. However, MDX again found ways to halt MAFEA's rally with Abuel sparking a run and Kelvin Fitial finishing it.

The defending champions launched a 9-0 run to bring back the lead to 16, 82-66, with Abuel scoring five straight points and Fitial capping the rally though his coast-to-coast drive against three Konflikt defenders.

When the game entered the final two minutes, MDX was comfortably in front by 13, making Konflikt realize it's time to throw in the towel.

Bernardo and Abuel top-scored for MDX with 22 points apiece, while Bon Tamayo added 14. Ivan De Vero and Kelvin Fitial chipped in 11 each.

Elmer Esdrelon led Konflikt with 20 markers, but made no more than two field goals in each of the four quarters. Mendoza had 14, but six of them came from the stripe, while Darwin Barbo had to bleed for points before collecting 10.

In the masters division game, Kids Cove VisMinda won by forfeit over Laguna Moonlight.

VisMinda and Laguna were scheduled to resume their rained-out game with 5:12 left in the fourth quarter, but the latter failed to show up for the match.

VisMinda was leading Laguna, 75-51 when rain halted their July 17 game.

With the win, VisMinda Kids Cove now has a 3-0 record, while Laguna absorbed its fourth loss in as many matches.

MDX Chow Queen 95 – Bernardo 22, Abuel 22, Tamayo 14, De Vero 11, Fitial 11, Aquino 6, Sablan 5, Pantaleon 4.

MAFEA Ali'i Konflikt 81 – Esdrelon 20, Mendoza 14, Talania 11, Aquino 11, D. Barbo 10, Tumaquip 6, Berline 4, Capalad 3, Camacho 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-12, 45-32, 64-53, 95-81.

QQ

From Page 28

sports booth. Moreover, special thanks to Conrad Sablan for donating four new spotlights that have been installed on the court and Rollers Basketball Club front man Joe Diaz for installing protective padding around the goals and sports booth. I would also like to thank Parks and Recreation director Tony Benavente for all of his help, in addition to Ray Lizama, Marlon Sison, Rolly Paraiso, and the rest of the Satbahi basketball team for volunteering their time to repaint the Garapan Basketball Court last Tuesday," said QQ Car Rental Basetball Cup organizer Reynaldo Perez.

Perez added that they built the booth as a gift for the whole community and expressed hopes that park-goers will deter from vandalizing it down the road.

The new shelter helps prevent the rain from damaging electrical equipment and helps block the wind from blowing away paperwork and league documents.

Chains with locks have also been installed on the west side court gates so that only players and authorized personnel will be allowed to be on the court during games. A new scoreboard equipped with modern shot clock technology and sound effects will also be up and running during the rest of the QQ caging season. According to Perez, new trash bins with lids should also be arriving soon.

The inaugural QQ caging is held every Wednesday and Friday and is made up of 10 teams—IT&E, Docomo Pacific, Pacific Grocers, Westerns, Wings Travel, Atalig Associates, Symar Pilot, Buraot, Cellular Pro, and Ferrera Builders.

2 COACHES

From Page 28

There will be no strong national team without grassroots training," Angeles said.

Angeles added that after completing the course, he and Del Rosario will coordinate with Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, which sent them to the seminar, to hold a similar course for coaches from other NMIFA-affiliated clubs and interested individuals.

The course, Angeles and Del Rosario, said will put premium on holding more youth football festivals and these should be conducted in a fun way and must stress the importance of developing skills than winning, safety, and fair play.

"Play should be an enjoyable way for children to learn. Playing football is simply sharing moments together without setting expectations. A coach just supervises children playing football, not training them to play the game. You have to make them feel safe and welcome too when playing because it will be difficult for them to learn and enjoy the activities if they were not," Del Rosario said.

"When teaching skills, emphasis should be on good points than bad to boost their morale. Keep them playing, as playing is the best teacher of the game," he said.

Angeles added in each activity, there should be planning.

"If you fail to plan, you plan to fail," the Tan Holdings FC coach said.

Angeles and Del Rosario both hoped that more new coaches like them will undergo the same training to continue the development of the sport in the CNMI.

"It is great to start coaching right, seeing children with big smiles on their faces when they are playing and enjoying the game," Del Rosario said.

OFFICIAL

From Page 28

and unfortunately, cycling is not one of them.

In 2014, Pohnpei will host the 8th Micronesian Games and cycling was not among the list of proposed sports.

For cycling to be included in the calendar of events in the Micro Games, there should be at least four countries sending riders to the races.

Victor believed the requirement of four countries could be met in future Micronesian Games, especially for island-nations that also has a good population of triathletes.

"These triathletes, who I believe are good bikers, too, can compete in cycling races. They can compete in two sports and sports federations will save more money in sending delegates to the Micronesian Games," Victor said.

The OCC official added they could use the Micro Games, too as a gauge in selecting cyclists that would be invited to join races in OCC-sanctioned events.

"We could use the Micro Games and even the Pacific Games as qualifiers for the Oceania Championships," Victor said.

"We really wanted to involve cyclist in Micronesian and others in the Pacific in the Oceania Championships and have them race against riders from New Zealand and Australia," the former Australia cycling president added.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	86	53	.619	–
Tampa Bay	84	54	.609	1 1/2
Boston	77	62	.554	9
Toronto	72	66	.522	13 1/2
Baltimore	53	86	.381	33

Central Division

Minnesota	82	57	.590	–
Chicago	77	61	.558	4 1/2
Detroit	69	70	.496	13
Kansas City	57	81	.413	24 1/2
Cleveland	57	82	.410	25

West Division

Texas	75	63	.543	–
Oakland	68	70	.493	7
Los Angeles	66	73	.475	9 1/2
Seattle	55	84	.396	20 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	80	60	.571	–
Atlanta	79	60	.568	1/2
Florida	70	68	.507	9
New York	68	71	.489	11 1/2
Washington	60	79	.432	19 1/2

Central Division

Cincinnati	79	59	.572	–
St. Louis	72	64	.529	6
Houston	65	73	.471	14
Milwaukee	64	74	.464	15
Chicago	60	79	.432	19 1/2
Pittsburgh	47	91	.341	32

West Division

San Diego	78	59	.569	–
San Francisco	78	61	.561	1
Colorado	74	64	.536	4 1/2
Los Angeles	69	70	.496	10
Arizona	56	83	.403	23

Yesterday's Games

Pittsburgh 5, Atlanta 0
Philadelphia 8, Florida 7
N.Y. Mets 4, Washington 1
Houston 7, Chicago Cubs 3
Milwaukee 4, St. Louis 2
Colorado 4, Cincinnati 3
San Francisco 6, Arizona 3
San Diego 2, L.A. Dodgers 1
Baltimore 6, N.Y. Yankees 2
Detroit 9, Chicago White Sox 1
Toronto 8, Texas 5
Tampa Bay 14, Boston 5
Minnesota 10, Kansas City 3
Cleveland 6, L.A. Angels 1
Seattle 7, Oakland 5

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2010 Basa Women's Slow-pitch Softball League

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Busch A Mad was awarded the championship trophy after beating Sakudi in the best-of-three title series in the 2010 Belau Amateur Softball Association Women's League played last Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

Busch A Mad's Felisa Brel, right, receives the Manager of the Year award from Belau Amateur Softball Association officials.

Sakudi players pose with their runner-up and pennant trophies during the awards ceremony for the league.

A Sakudi batter eyes the ball during the top of the third inning of Game 2.

Busch A Mad's Didiich Tudela is all smiles after receiving his Finals MVP award.

Sakudi coach Franklin Cruz won the Coach of the Year award.

Busch A Mad's Emy Quitugua heads to the bench after scoring the game-winning run in the deciding Game 3 of the finals series.

Polanco's big hit lifts Phillies into first place

25

Scola leads Argentina past Brazil at Worlds

24

MDX Chow Queen clinches pennant

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MDX Chow Queen played a solid game against MAFEA Ali'i Konflikt to win the battle of unbeaten teams, 95-81, in the open division of the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League Tuesday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

The victory improved MDX's record to 5-0 and gave the team the pennant. The defending champion will go for a sweep of the round-robin regular season when it duels Samahang Ilonggo sa Saipan Mariana Wireless on Sept. 18.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MDX Chow Queen's Kelvin Fitial goes up for a layup after slipping past MAFEA Ali'i Konflikt defenders during their game in the UFO caging Tuesday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

MAFEA Ali'i Konflikt dropped to a 4-1 record, as it failed to find an antidote to MDX's vaunted fastbreak and half-court offensive sets.

MDX made every shot one could think of, canning triples, fastbreak layups, pull-up jumpers, fadeaway shots, and undergoal stabs. You name it and MDX had it, leaving MAFEA frustrated all night. MAFEA never led, playing catch-up all throughout the game and finally gave up in the last two minutes of the match.

On defense, MDX limited MAFEA to 12 points in the opening quarter to dictate the tempo of the game early. By the end of the first period, MDX was ahead by nine, 23-12, with Kae Bernardo firing 14 of his team's total output.

The defending champions stretched the lead to as high as 16 in the second period, 39-23, before Elmer Esdrelon and Edmark Mendoza trimmed it down to three, 23-26. That was the closest MAFEA could get, as Wowie Abuel and company hit timely baskets in the ensuing plays to end the first half with MDX enjoying a 45-32 advantage.

The third quarter remained an MDX show, as the de-

See MDX on Page 26

2 coaches complete FIFA grassroots course

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United's Norman Del Rosario and Tan Holdings Football Club's Jersh Angeles completed the FIFA grassroots program last weekend and are now ready to spread the word.

The program, which ran from Aug. 28 to Sept. 4, was held in Guam with participants learning how to teach the basics of the sport at the grassroots level and other techniques and ways to introduce the sport to age group players.

"It was an honor to be part of the class and learn from FIFA instructors. Football in the CNMI is very young and grassroots training is key to developing the sport.

See 2 COACHES on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, former Guam Women's National Team coach Noel Casilao, FIFA instructor Takeshi Ono, MP United's Norman Del Rosario, FIFA development officer Dato Nyim Keong Yap, Tan Holdings FC's Jershwin Angeles, and GFA general secretary Tino San Gil pose for a group photo during the awarding of certificates for the FIFA grassroots course participants at Shirley's Coffee Shop in Harmon, Guam.

Official bats for cycling in Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Oceania Cycling Confederation vice president Mike Victor is looking to have cycling included in the calendar of events in future Micronesian Games.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Matt Mancao slows down as he nears the bike-run transition area during the triathlon competition in the 7th Micronesia Games in Palau last month. Besides triathlon and other regular sports in the Micro Games, an Oceania official is hoping that cycling will be included in the calendar of events of the quadrennial event in the future.

"We would love to see cyclists compete in the Micronesian Games and assist organizers in doing the races," said Victor, who was on Saipan last weekend as part of his tour in Micronesian to promote the sport in the region.

In the past seven editions of the Micro Games, cycling was never included in the Games' competition list.

Under the charter of the Micronesian Games Council, which oversees the holding of the quadrennial event, the host country must propose the sports to be played in the Micro Games with the Council agreeing to the list. The host country should also include on the list mandatory sports

See OFFICIALS on Page 26

QQ Car Rental unveils new booth

WALTER SUTHERLAND
Organizers and officials of the QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup pose for a group photo inside and in front of the newly erected booth at the Garapan Basketball Court.

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup league officials unveiled their new sports commentating booth at the Garapan Basketball Court last Wednesday during halftime of their first game.

"I would like to express a great thanks to QQ Car Rental president James Hann for donating the money used to erect the new

See QQ on Page 26